

Public Document Pack

Police & Crime Panel for Lancashire

Monday, 5th December, 2022

4.00 pm

Council Chamber

Blackburn Town Hall

[Link to Webcast](#)

AGENDA

1. **Welcome and Apologies**
2. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th September 2022**
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3. **Declarations of Interest**
4. **Panel Membership Update**
Report to PCP.Membership 2022 23.Update Dec 2022 9 - 11
5. **Public Questions**
6. **Performance Update**
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App A - performance schedule
7. **PCC Decisions**
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8. **Task and Finish Groups Update**
Report to enclosed.
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Call Centre Report and Recommendations
9. **PCP Annual Conference 2022**
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10. **Complaints Update**

11. Urgent Business

An item of urgent business may only be considered under this heading where, by reason of special circumstances to be recorded in the Minutes, the Chairman of the meeting is of the opinion that the Item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency. Wherever possible, the Secretary of the Panel should be given advance warning of any Members intention to raise a matter under this heading.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Panel will be held on Wednesday 1st February 2023 (Precept Only) at 4pm at Blackburn Town Hall.

Date Published: 25th November 2022

Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 14th September 2022

Present:

Chair

Councillor Jackie Oakes, Rossendale Borough Council

Committee Members

Councillor Roger Berry, Wyre Borough Council
Councillor Frank Andrews, Fylde Borough Council
Councillor Ged Mirfin, Lancashire Country Council
Councillor Peter Edwards, Hyndburn Borough Council
Councillor Jan Alcock, Ribble Valley Borough Council
Councillor Sandra Thornberry, Lancaster City Council
Councillor Phil Riley, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
Councillor Peter Hunter, Blackpool Borough Council
Councillor Mark Townsend, Burnley Borough Council
Councillor Alistair Bradley, Chorley Borough Council
Councillor James Flannery, South Ribble Borough Council
Councillor David Whipp, Pendle Borough Council
Richard Glover, Co-Opted Independent Member

Also in attendance

- Chris Rowley, Chief Constable
- Andrew Snowden, Police and Crime Commissioner
- Andrew Pratt, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
- Angela Harrison, Office of the PCC
- Asad Laher, Secretary
- Phil Llewellyn, Corporate and Democratic Lead
- Nathan Richards, Graduate Trainee

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from:

- Councillor Ash Sutcliffe
- Councillor Tommy Threlfall
- Councillor Simon Hore
- Councillor Peter Le Marinel
- Councillor Robert Boswell
- Councillor Quesir Mahmood
- Councillor Gordon Johnson

2. Minutes

RESOLVED – The Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th July 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

3. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mirfin declared that he was Chair of the Community, Cultural, and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee at Lancashire County Council.

No other interests were declared.

Note: In reference to the previous meeting, it should be highlighted that Angela Harrison and Asad Laher clarified the positions in terms of potential Declarations of Interest, noting the scrutiny aspect, but also clarifying that whilst LCC could request attendance by the PCC, that only the PCP actually officially scrutinised the Commissioner.

4. Panel Member Update

The Secretary, Asad Laher, provided an updated report following the previous AGM meeting. The Secretary explained that despite minor political changes at Hyndburn Council, this did not drastically change the political proportionality composition figures of the Police and Crime Panel set out in the previous meeting's report.

The Secretary also wished to amend the report, removing the line 'Subject to Home Office Approval' in concern to the nomination of Co-opted members, as the Home Office only needed to be notified, and did not need to respond. The amendment was approved.

The Panel was informed that the Co-opted members of the Police and Crime Panel have been confirmed by their respective Councils, and The Home Office has been notified. As such, they are now able to join the Panel. These Councillors were...

RESOLVED: That it is to be noted that:

1. The Panel Membership for 2022/2023 as 15 core Elected Members (plus 2 co-opted Independent Members) plus 3 additional co-opted elected members as set out in this report, to achieve the 'balanced appointment objective' (as far as reasonably practicable).
2. The Secretary has notified the Home Office of the 3 additional co-opted elected members as approved at the AGM on 4th July 2022 with the reasons as to how their appointments would assist in achieving the 'balanced appointment objective'.

5. Public Questions

No public questions were received.

6. Chief Constable Verbal Update

The Chief Constable (CC) informed the Panel that he took over the role in April 2021, and immediately conducted a review of Lancashire Police Force. The focus of this review was to discover how the Police Force could be more visible and accessible to communities within the Lancashire area. A number of further reviews

were also being held. This included ensuring staff knew their purpose in being a public servant, and around the operational delivery of the Force.

The Panel were told that the Chief Constable was the first external appointment to the position for 28 years. This had the potential to be destabilising for the Force. Due to staff movement to the Greater Manchester Police Force, the Chief Constable advised the Panel that he had the opportunity to appoint both his Deputy, and to identify and understand the role of a Chief Operating Officer. In doing the latter, this gave the Chief Constable greater assurance that the Lancashire Police Force were spending the tax payer's money appropriately.

It was reported that the Force has hired a third Assistant Chief Constable, with two of those being temporary. Divisional Commanders have also been re-established. The Panel was informed that this was done for 2 reasons.

1. Through the CC's past experience, a central figure, who could be identified, made the Police Force more accessible and responsive to local communities.
2. Ensuring a more cohesive team in terms of delivering objectives.

Additionally, many partners, including Local Authorities and Members of Parliament, believed Divisional Commanders should be reinstated. This has been achieved at no additional cost.

A number of priorities were highlighted to the Panel, including Violence against Women and Girls, Antisocial Behaviour across the county, and the backlog and wait times at the Control Room. Furthermore, the CC informed the Panel of the praise the Urban Task Force had received, placing it as one of the best of the Country.

The CC also provided a snapshot of the year, including the national CJS scorecard, indicators of crime, and police response to crime.

During and after his verbal update, the CC received a number of questions from the Panel. These ranged in topics, including: call centre processes and the use of the switchboard; staffing; confidence in data; violence towards women; and, organised crime.

The CC outlined the current use of a switchboard in dealing with calls to the Control Room, highlighting the need to upgrade the process. The Panel were also informed that there were efforts to increase staffing across the Police Force. In relation to confidence in data, the CC agreed that it was not a simple answer, with the PCC adding that it was important to look at this data across a spectrum, rather than singular graphs and figures. Finally, the CC agreed that violence towards Women and Organised Crimes were key areas of focus, and that resources would be prioritised for these areas.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

7. Performance Update

Due to the period of national mourning following the death of Queen Elizabeth II, the Police and Crime Commissioner took the update as read. The PCC asked for any

questions on this update to be directed to him through channels outside of this meeting.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted, with any questions from the Panel on the Performance update are to be sent to the Police and Crime Commissioner directly.

8. Annual Report 2021/22

Due to the period of national mourning, the Police and Crime Commissioner took the update as read. This report would normally be subject to a press release, however, due to the current circumstances, had not been publicised.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted, with any questions or comments on the Annual Report are to be sent to the Police and Crime Commissioner directly.

9. PCC Decisions

Due to the period of national mourning, the Police and Crime Commissioner took the update as read. The Police and Crime Commissioner noted that there are a mixture of announcements, decisions, and press releases within the report, as well as technical and financial decisions.

Councillor Bradley asked if there were any anticipated changes to the national approach to policing due to changes in the Home Office. The Police and Crime Commissioner informed the Panel that he had been in discussions with the Home Office, who were taking soundings on new policy ideas. He highlighted that his number one ask from the Home Office was the end of degree level entry for the Police Force.

Furthermore, the Police and Crime Commissioner agreed to update the Panel at the next meeting on any discussions he may have concerning a change in approach to policing.

RESOLVED – That the report is to be noted. Any questions on the PCC Decisions are to be sent to the Police and Crime Commissioner directly.

10. Task and Finish Groups – Verbal Updates from the Chairs

10.1. 101 Service – Councillor Berry

As part of their research, the Task and Finish group had visited the Force Control Room.

The Group found that between 70-80% of calls were non-police matters. There were particular issues during holidays and weekends, where individuals struggled to get in contact with agencies that could help, and as such, resorted to calling the 101 Control Centre. This would feed into the task and finish group's recommendations.

A draft report had been written, and would be reviewed by Councillor Berry on the week commencing 19th September 2022. These findings would then be shared with the Commissioner.

Councillor Berry agreed to share the report and findings with the Police and Crime Panel before the next scheduled meeting.

It was noted that more needed to be done by some agencies, in order to alleviate the pressure on the Police.

RESOLVED: That the verbal update be noted, and the report on the 101 Service be sent to Panel members before the next scheduled meeting.

10.2. Domestic Violence against Women & Girls - Councillor Townsend

The Domestic Violence against Women & Girls Task and Finish group met and agreed the Terms of Reference.

The Group were looking to set up a meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner in November and will look to progress their work from there.

RESOLVED: That the verbal update be noted.

10.3. Rural Policing - Councillor Mirfin

Councillor Mirfin informed the Panel that arrangements were being made to go out on a patrol with members of the Rural Police Force. This will be arranged once officers had informed Councillor Mirfin around the Police Force's availability.

RESOLVED: That the verbal update be noted.

11. Work Programme – Discussion on Agenda Items for the December 2022 and March 2023 Meetings

The Panel were asked if they wanted to consider topics for the next two meetings.

RESOLVED: The Chair agreed to liaise with Officers on appropriate agenda items for the next two meetings.

12. Complaints Update

The Panel were presented with an update on complaints received since the last meeting, with two complaints against the PCC/DPCC, one of which had been resolved. The other was currently being considered by the Secretary as per the appropriate process, for which further information had been requested.

In order to provide a resolution for any complaints against the PCC and DPCC, the Secretary informed the Panel that a Sub-Committee was required. This Sub-Committee is to consist of 5 members, and to reflect the political proportionality of

the Police and Crime Panel (2 from the Labour Group, 2 from the Conservative group, and 1 from 'Other'). The Secretary suggested that a pool was created, from which 5 individuals could be selected for each meeting of the Complaints Sub-Committee. The Secretary noted that this would help with availability. Furthermore, he would also arrange for the Sub-Committee to meet straight after any meetings of the Police and Crime Panel.

RESOLVED: The report is to be noted. The following Councillors agreed to be part of the Complaints Sub-Committee

- Councillor Jackie Oakes
- Councillor Roger Berry
- Councillor David Whipp
- Councillor Alistair Bradley

Councillor Peter Le Marinel was nominated in his absence.

The Chair indicated that she hoped that other members of the Police and Crime Panel would take part in the sub-committee if/ when required.

13. Urgent Business

There are no items of urgent business.

14. Date of Next Meeting

The Panel noted that the next meeting would be held on Monday 5th December 2022 at 4pm at Blackburn Town Hall.

Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire

Meeting to be held on the 5th December 2022

Membership Update 2022/23

Contact for further information: Asad Laher, Secretary to Police & Crime Panel,
asad.laher@blackburn.gov.uk

Executive Summary

To provide an update on the membership of the Police and Crime Panel for 2022/23, following the Panel's approval at the AGM on 4th July of the Membership Review and update at the Panel meeting on 14th September.

Recommendation

Panel is asked to note the update to the Membership following recent by-elections held at Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Burnley.

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced Police and Crime Panels (PCP) as formal joint committee of all the local authorities within the police force area.

The Lancashire Police & Crime Panel ('the Panel') consists of 15 Elected Members, one from each local authority and 2 co-opted Independent Members (non-political). In addition, up to 3 other Elected Members can be co-opted in order to achieve the 'balanced appointment objective' (as far as reasonably practicable), and best represents the overall political make up of all the 15 local authorities in the police area. There is also a requirement for the membership to have skills, knowledge and experience necessary for it to discharge its functions effectively.

In accordance with the legislation and available guidance, the political balance of the Panel was determined from an overall calculation based on the current political composition of all 15 local authorities in the police force area. For the purposes of the political balance calculations, the 'minor' political groups from all the 15 local authorities have been grouped together as 'Other' and similarly, all the 'Independent' elected Members from the 15 local authorities have been being grouped together. The Panel's Arrangements enables additional elected members to be co-opted to achieve the 'balanced appointment objective', provided the total membership does not exceed 20. Based on the information provided by the 15 local authorities at the time of the AGM on 4 July, the overall political composition for the police force area was:

Con	40.58%
Lab	39.47%
Lib	5.96%

Ind	5.40%
Other	5.82%
Green	2.77%
Total	100%

Since the AGM on 4 July and the update provided to the Panel on 14th September, there has been some further minor political changes, with by-elections held at Darwen South ward of Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council (17.11.2022), Greenlands ward of Blackpool Borough Council (17.11.2022), and Rosehill with Burnley Wood ward of Burnley Borough Council (10.11.2022). The changes represent the following political composition of the police force area:

Con	40.17%
Lab	39.33%
Lib	5.96%
Ind	6.09%
Other	5.68%
Green	2.77%
Total	100.00%

This still represents the following composition for a politically balanced Panel of 15 elected member seats:

Lab	6
Con	6
Lib Dem	1
Ind	1
Other	1

In addition, the Panel also appoints 2 Independent Co-opted Members, who are not elected representatives to serve on the Panel. Following a recruitment process held on 7 July 2022, Richard Glover was appointed as an Independent Co-opted Member. There is one seat still currently vacant and a further recruitment process will be held in due course to fill the vacancy.

Following the appointment of the 3 co-opted additional elected member seats in order to closely align the composition of the Panel with the overall political composition of the police force area, the full composition of the 2022/23 membership for the Panel would remain as follows:

Lab -	8 (as nominated)
Con -	8 (i.e. 6 as nominated + 2 co-opted additional elected member seats)
Lib Dem -	1 (i.e. 1 co-opted additional elected member seat)
Other -	1 (as nominated)

Independent co-opted (non –political) - 2

Total – 20 seats (maximum).

Consultations

All Local Authorities represented on the Panel are requested to nominate a member and subsequently the Lancashire Leaders were invited to review their nomination to achieve the 'balanced appointment objective'. For the 3 additional co-opted members the respective Councils were requested to confirm their appointments.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk Management

The requirement for an Independent Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire is in accordance with the provisions of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

Legal Implications

The legal implications of this report are set out in the body of the report and were further detailed in the report to the AGN on 4 July 2022 [Report to AGM.Membership 2022 23.pdf \(blackburn.gov.uk\)](#).

It is a legal requirement to notify the Home Office of the additional co-opted members, with the reasons as to how their appointments would assist in achieving the 'balanced appointment objective'.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Responses received from the 3 Individual Local Authorities regarding nominated co-opted Representatives November 2022

Asad Laher
Secretary to the
Police & Crime Panel

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate N/A

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Meeting to be held on 5 December 2022

Police & Crime Commissioner's update

Contact for further information Ian Dickinson, 01772 533587, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, commissioner@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Panel with an update on progress in developing the current Police and Crime Plan (the Plan) for Lancashire 2021-2025.

This report also aims to highlight some of activity of the PCC/Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is asked to consider the report.

Background

1. The Police and Crime Commissioner has a responsibility to hold the Chief Constable to account for the Constabulary's performance as against the Police and Crime Plan priorities by means of the Accountability Board meeting.
2. This link <https://www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/transparency/meetings-reports/accountability-board-meeting/> details of the Accountability Board papers received from the Chief Constable and the Minutes of the meeting records the PCC holding the Chief Constable to account.
3. The Panel are therefore referred to the Accountability Board meetings and may through today's meeting ask the Police and Crime Commissioner issues they feel relevant to the Scrutiny activity.

Performance Headlines

4. On 16 November 2022, the Commissioner held his Accountability Board meeting with the Chief Constable. The Commissioner received updates on the Constabulary's performance against the Police and Crime Plan priorities, workforce planning and the work of the Professional Standards Department.

Key issues discussed included:

- Work of the Lancashire Violence Reduction Network
- Update on demands on the service and calls from the public
- Discussion around the governance of the police museum in Lancaster
- Discussion on the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan

Following the meeting the Commissioner and the Chief Constable produced a short video via his website highlighting the areas discussed.

[Accountability Board Meetings - Lancashire Police Crime Commissioner \(lancashire-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://lancashire-pcc.gov.uk)

5. The Commissioner, as part of the priority in his Police and Crime Plan to crack down on Burglary and Robbery, Funded and supported the launch of Op Defender, a dedicated Constabulary campaign to tackle residential burglary, address local concerns, identify, and target hotspot areas for surge activity, whilst helping the public deter offenders and protect themselves and their properties.
6. The Commissioner welcomed the news that Lancashire Constabulary has exceeded its national recruitment targets, in October alone 140 new officers were sworn in during recent attestations.
7. Since 14th September, the Commissioner has awarded **£ 314,041.33** through the Safer Lancashire Neighbourhood Fund (breakdown below)
 - 20th Sept – Community Fund – 54,283.80 – 6 projects (2022-19)
 - 20th Sept – Community Fund – 31,400 – 5 projects (2022-20)
 - 26th October – Community Fund – 14,332 – 5 projects (2022-22)
 - 26th October – Police Innovation Fund – 28,925.85 – 5 projects (2022-23)
 - 31st October – Police Innovation Fund - £165,156 – 1 project (2022-24)
 - 7th October – Fighting Crime Grants - 19,943.68 – additional police resource over bonfire weekend (2022-26)
8. In October, the latest HMICFRS report on Lancashire Constabulary was released. HMICFRS was pleased with the performance of Lancashire Constabulary in keeping people safe and reducing crime. HMICFRS also recognised that the new leadership team had made a very positive start and was acting quickly on issues they had raised throughout the inspection. The Commissioner has praised the commitment and dedication of the Constabulary's officers and staff to make people safer in Lancashire.

The full report can be viewed via the following link

[Lancashire PEEL assessment 2021/22](#)

9. The Commissioner welcomed the launch of the latest Operation Sceptre national campaign, with surge activity in Lancashire tackling knife crime and being clear around the risks posed by carrying a knife. Throughout the week-long operation an increase in activity took place which resulted in a total of 957 knives being taken off Lancashire streets and 77 arrests being made.
10. In October, the national Project Edward campaign came to Lancashire. The aim is to change minds, change behaviour, with a focus on how to get road users to think differently about their trip and what a safe trip looks like. The event was hosted by the Deputy PCC, Andy Pratt MBE, and supported by members of the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership.
11. The Commissioner has welcomed the latest Operation Vanquish activity by the Constabulary with a fortnight of intensified action. The operation in October saw:
 -
 - 60 people arrested for drink or drug-driving
 - 54 people caught for not wearing a seatbelt
 - 217 people dealt with for speeding
 - 15 people stopped who were driving while using a mobile phone
 - 72 cars on the road without an MOT
 - 82 seized vehicles from people for driving without insurance or a licence
 - 229 people given traffic offence reports and 79 people summonsed to court
 - Several stolen vehicles recovered and returned to their rightful owners.
12. The Commissioner welcomed the decision from Government, announced by the Home Secretary at the Joint APCC/NPCC summit, to scrap the requirement for a degree within police officer recruitment. This followed a months long campaign by the Commissioner, lobbying for a change to the requirement so it is not the sole entry route.
13. The Commissioner saw first-hand the new x-ray scanning kit he funded, in action. The kit enables police officers to search for objects in cavity walls in houses, concealed items in cars as well as being able to efficiently search large scale public events such as conferences.
14. In September, the Deputy PCC Andy Pratt spoke at the county's first heritage crime conference held at Salmesbury Hall which brought together partners across policing, local authorities, business and wider stakeholders to discuss how we can work together to protect our historic homes, churches, buildings, and property. Around 100 people attended, recognising the collective importance of protecting and preserving our heritage and supporting the police in making it tougher for offenders to target these sites.

Recommendation

15. Panel Members are recommended to consider the information contained in this report, and the information provided within the meeting, and comment accordingly.

Angela Harrison
Chief Executive

1. National Picture

National Crime and Policing Measures

Target	Measure	12 months to Sept 2020	12 months to Sept 2022	Change
Reduce Murder/Homicide	Recorded Homicides	21	20	-4.8%
Reduce Serious violence	Firearms Offences (includes all uses however excludes air weapons and bb guns)	44 [^]	78 [^]	+77%
	Discharges of Lethal Barrelled Firearms (handguns, shotguns and rifles - not air)	6 [^]	8 [^]	+33%
	Presentations to ED with knife/sharp object assault injuries	108 [*]	97 [*]	-10.2%
Reduce Neighbourhood Crime	Recorded Burglary, Robbery, Theft of/from vehicle, Theft from person	17,539	16,284	-7.2%
Improve satisfaction among victims (focus on DA)	% Victims Satisfied (internal surveys)	70.0%	70.5%	+0.5%
	% DA Victims Satisfied (internal surveys)	85.7%	85.0%	-0.7%
Tackle Cyber Crime	Recorded Online/Cyber-enabled crimes	5,841	6,216	+6.4%

[^] Data 12 months to end of June 2020 and June 2022 as July/August/September Data isn't yet available

^{*}Data 12 months to end of August 2020 and August 2022 as September Data isn't yet available

Key Headlines

- **Use of Weapons:** Discharges of lethal, barreled weapons remain static in trend and low in number, with 3 recorded in the last quarter. There has been an increase in overall police recorded firearms offences, however analysis has confirmed this is entirely driven by threats with weapons, rather than their active use. A Constabulary Intelligence Analyst has recently completed a problem profile, which confirms no fatal injuries using firearms in the last year, no firearms thefts in that period and 9 recovered firearms. Five of nine unlawful discharges were related to drugs/OCG disputes.
- **Homicide:** There have been four homicides recorded since July. Arrests have been made in all cases, and 5 individuals charged and remanded . The latest National data shows an upward trend.). This likely indicates a return to expected levels after a considerable dip during the pandemic.
- **Drugs Offences:** National data shows an increase in Police Recorded Drugs Offences in Lancashire, when the year to July is compared against a pre-pandemic baseline. However, this is in line with National trends and is likely driven through proactive work, including Operation Vanquish.
- **Victim Satisfaction:** Levels for DA victims and Overall victims remain circa 85% and 71% respectively.
- **Cyber crime** – Internal measures indicate a continued increase.

National CJS Delivery Data

Data was updated in August 2022 to include Quarter 1 of 2022 (January to March).

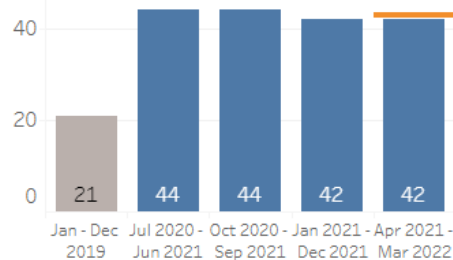
Key Headlines

All Crime

- The latest national data suggests **no change in the timeliness of investigations for victims of crime overall**. Lancashire is also in line with the national trend. Timeliness from police referral to CPS charge for the North-West CPS area is also below the National average and static in trend (-6 ppts; 36 days). However, continued increases are apparent in the HMCTS data when assessing time from arrival in Crown Court to case completion. The latter figure is also 4 ppts above the National average (at 241 days).

Median days from offence recorded to the police charging an offender for offences where there is a specific individual victim - Lancashire

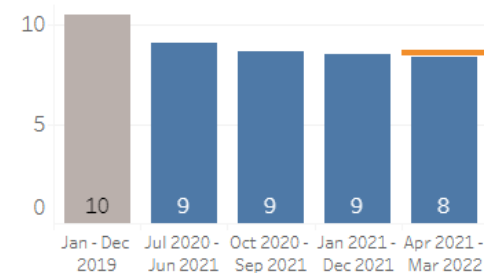
no change from Jan 2021 - Dec 2021



Orange line = National value.

Percentage of police-recorded offences where the offender is issued with a successful outcome for offences where there are specific individual victims - Lancashire

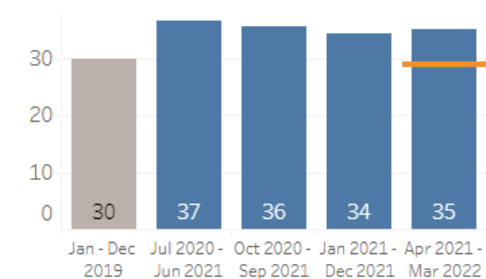
no change from Jan 2021 - Dec 2021



Orange line = National value.

Percentage of police investigations closed because the victim does not support further police action - Lancashire

↑1 ppt from Jan 2021 - Dec 2021



Orange line = National value.

Rolling 12 month comparisons for Lancashire and National Average – (orange line) – All Crime

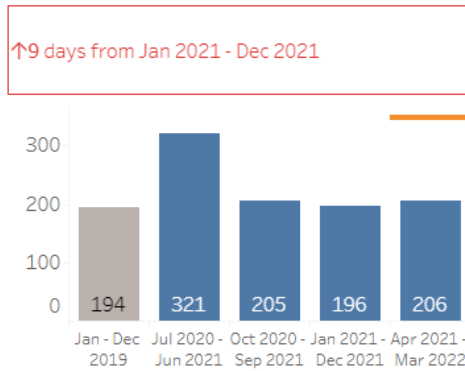
Source: [Criminal Justice System Delivery Data Dashboard - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-system-delivery-data)

- The **percentage of positive outcomes for victim-based crime has also shown little change** and is again reflective of the National average – (based on this 12-month rolling average to the end of March 2022 only). Data indicates a very **slight increase in the percentage of investigations closed because the victim does not support further police action** and Lancashire's figure is above the National average (by 6 percentage points).

Adult Rape

- Lancashire is **ahead of the National average in relation to investigative timeliness and positive outcomes** for adult victims of rape. The North West CPS area is also ahead of the National picture in relation to the time taken to authorise a charge following police referral. However the Lancashire HMCTS data indicates that the time from a case arriving at Crown Court to it being completed, is both increasing, and above the National average (+17 ppts at 390 days).

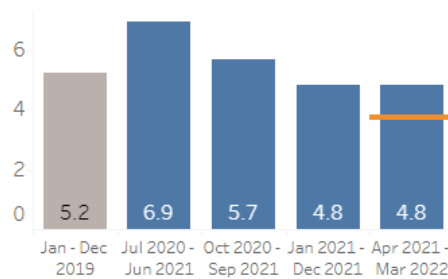
Median days from offence recorded to the police charging an offender - Lancashire



Orange line = National value.

Percentage of cases which resulted in a charge (out of all adult rape cases with any outcome assigned) - Lancashire

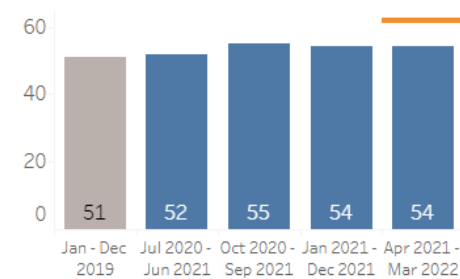
no change from Jan 2021 - Dec 2021



Orange line = National value.

Percentage of police investigations closed because the victim does not support further police action - Lancashire

no change from Jan 2021 - Dec 2021



Orange line = National value.

Rolling 12 month comparisons for Lancashire and National Average – (orange line) – Adult Rape

Source: [Criminal Justice System Delivery Data Dashboard - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-system-delivery-data)

- Lancashire also closed a smaller percentage of investigations due to the victim not supporting police action (8 ppts lower than the National average).

2. Recorded Crime and Outcome Levels

Year-to-Date comparison – All Crime

1 st April – 30 th September	All crime total	Percentage change vs. previous year
2019	74,435	-
2020	61,164	-18%
2021	69,554	+14%
2022	70,090	+0.8%

- Overall, crime levels are marginally higher in the year-to-date than 2021, but remain below the 2019 pre-pandemic period.

Outcomes – Priority Crimes

- The latest available national data (year to end of August 2022) shows the Constabulary continues to achieve greater proportions of positive outcomes than the North-West Regional and National averages across almost all priority crime types.

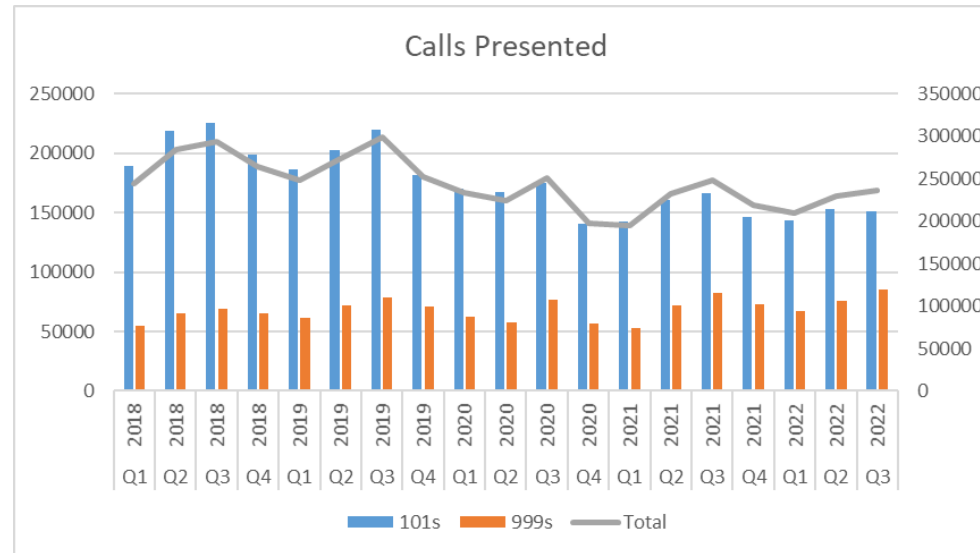
Police and Crime Plan Priorities

3. Efficient and Effective policing

Contact Management update

Key Headlines

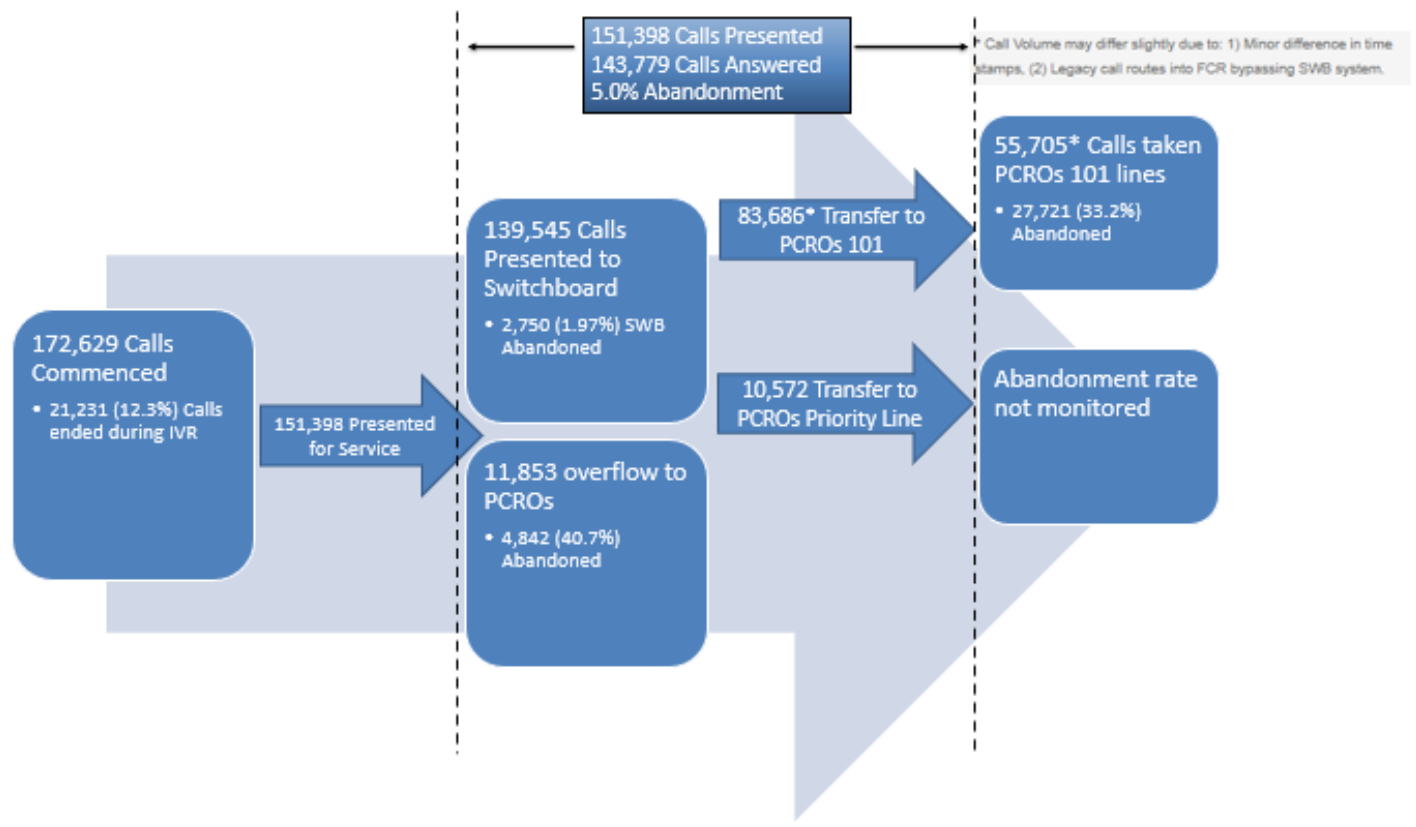
- The overall number of calls presented has increased throughout 2022 and the **latest quarter recorded the highest volume of 999 calls** in currently available data. The figure (85,170) was 3000 calls higher than the same quarter in 2021. August's figure was also the highest monthly volume of 999 calls since 2011, at 30,132 calls. In contrast, 101 calls have gradually decreased in volume across the long-term, although there is evidence of channel shift to the digital desk. Digital contact via email or the Public Engagement portal peaked in 2021 and is currently tracking at levels very similar to 2019 (for the calendar year to date = 79k contacts).



Call volumes per month 2018 – present (total refers to right axis)

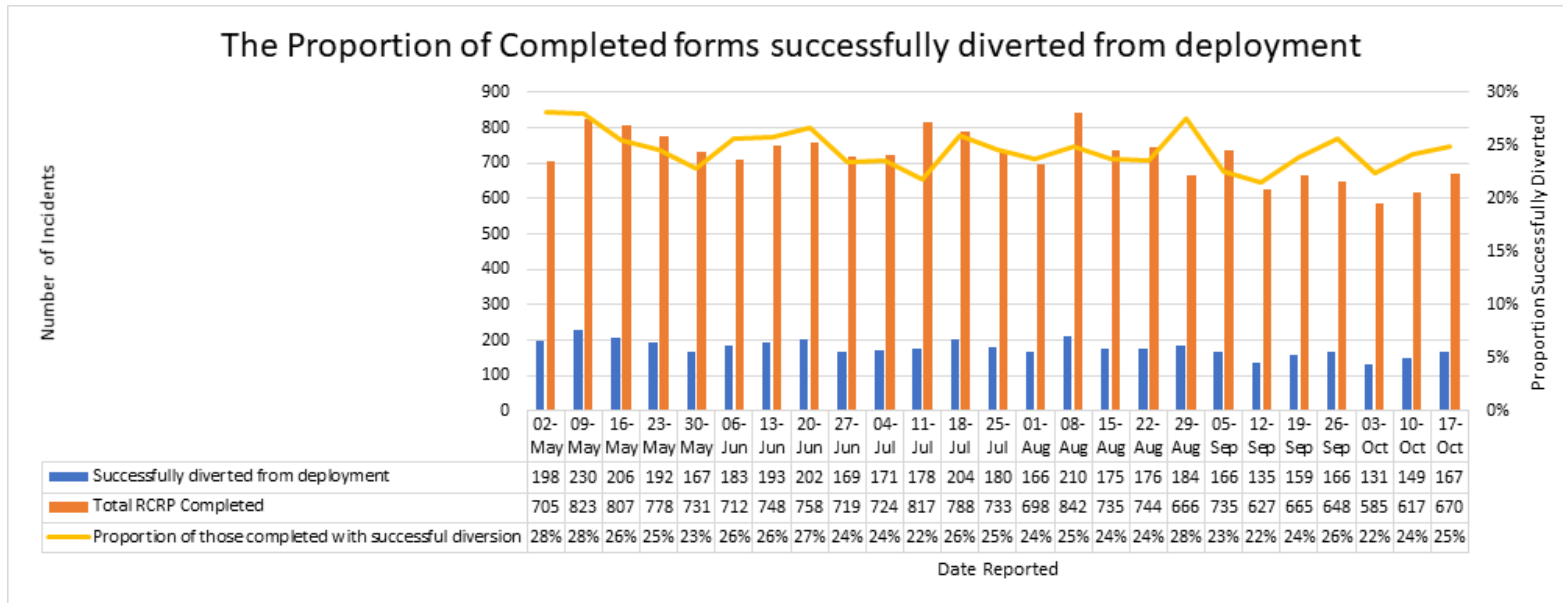
Source: FCR Live Dashboard

- 101 abandonment rates:** The switchboard abandonment rate (calls abandoned after presentation to the switchboard during operating hours) was 2% during the last quarter, a slight reduction from nearer 3% in June. The combined abandonment rate, which includes all hours (during switchboard operation and overnight, when Call Operators take 101 calls instead was 5.0%, a reduction of 0.3% since the last update.



101 Call Flow Performance – July to September 2022
Source: FCR Live dashboard, Power BI

- **999 Service Levels** started to reduce in quarter 2 during a period of peak leave, abstraction and sickness, alongside reduced resourcing levels. With the additional impact of increased call volumes in the FCR over the last few months, service levels have further reduced, averaging at 58% during the latest quarter. This has already improved in October, tracking at 67% at the time of writing. Abandonment jumped up in August to 3.5%, but quickly reduced again in September to 1.2%.
- **Digital Desk Performance has been maintained.** As per the last update, performance levels continue to meet targets.
- The Right Care, Right Person approach has been applied to between 75 and 80% of all concern for welfare incidents across the last quarter. Data indicates that in approximately a quarter of cases, deployment has been deemed unnecessary, therefore reducing resource impact through effective engagement with partners.



4. Getting Tough on Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Key Headlines

- **Reductions have continued**, with figures tracking 22% below the previous financial year to date (see below). Volumes in the last quarter closely mirror those in June-September 2019. A slight increase was observed in the month of August, as would be expected, following seasonal trends. Across the last quarter, moto nuisance continued to be an issue at multiple locations and fast-food restaurants across the County reported issues with beggars, youths and unruly customers.

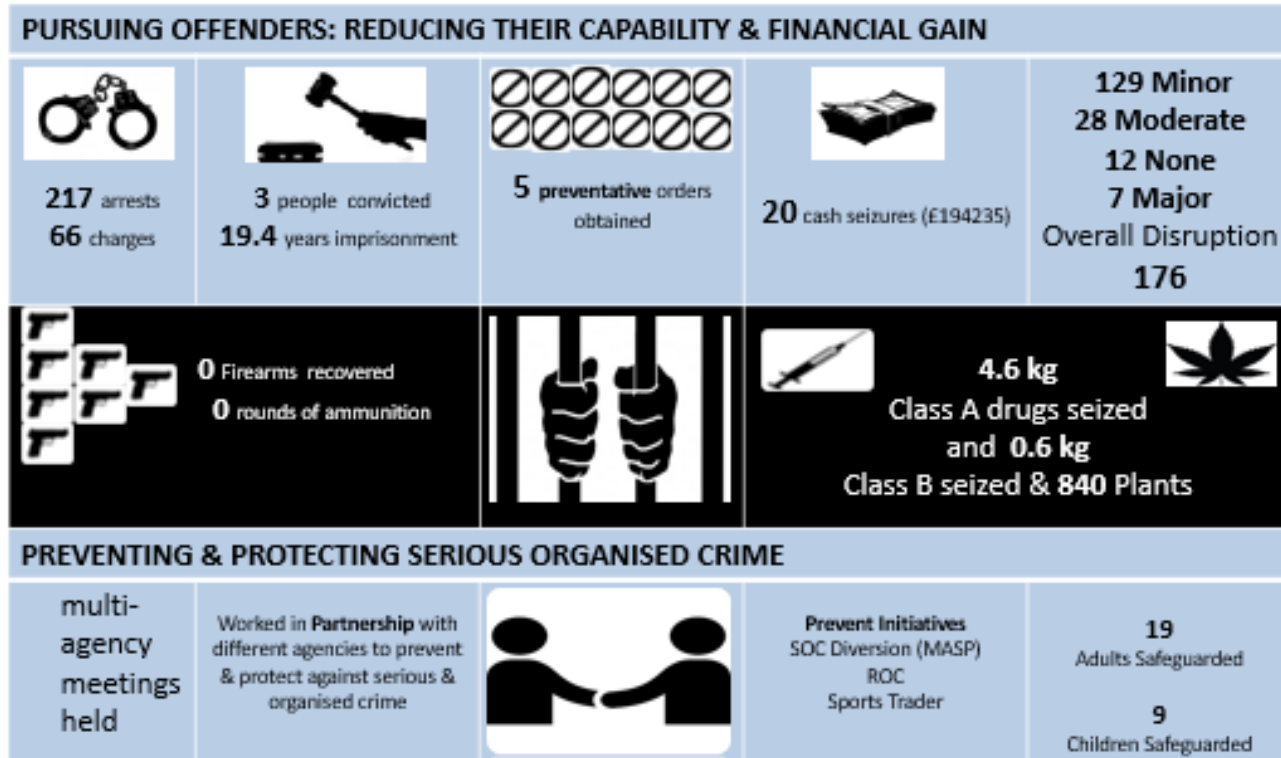
1st April – 30th September	ASB Incident total	Percentage change vs. previous year
2019	30,401	-
2020	52,330	+72%
2021	39,751	-24%
2022	30,957	-22%

ASB Incidents Recorded – Lancashire, 2018/19 to present

Source: Responding Dashboard

- LANPAC bids to support crime prevention activity increased over the last period by 86% - this is following a concerted effort to promote available funds. Through partner support, the Constabulary's Prevention and Problem-Solving Command have scheduled a meeting with an external marketing company to review how LANPAC is promoted further afield.
- A survey of Special Constabulary staff has informed an action plan for the next 12-months. Feedback included requests for more specialist training. This resulted in implementation of a dedicated Safer Roads Team, Special Constabulary Rural & Wildlife Officers, and an increase in the use of Specials at Football Matches and events. In March 2023, several places have been secured on an initial Level 2 Public Order course, a first for Lancashire, which will increase capability and resilience. In the last quarter Special Constabulary colleagues have volunteered over 9,500 hours.
- On the 28th September, the first 'Heritage Crime Conference' took place at Salmesbury Hall, led by the Constabulary's Rural Crime Coordinator. This was the first of its kind in Lancashire, and one of the first of its kind nationally. Over 120 delegates attended throughout the day.

5. Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime



Data for July – September; Source: PAM system

Key Headlines

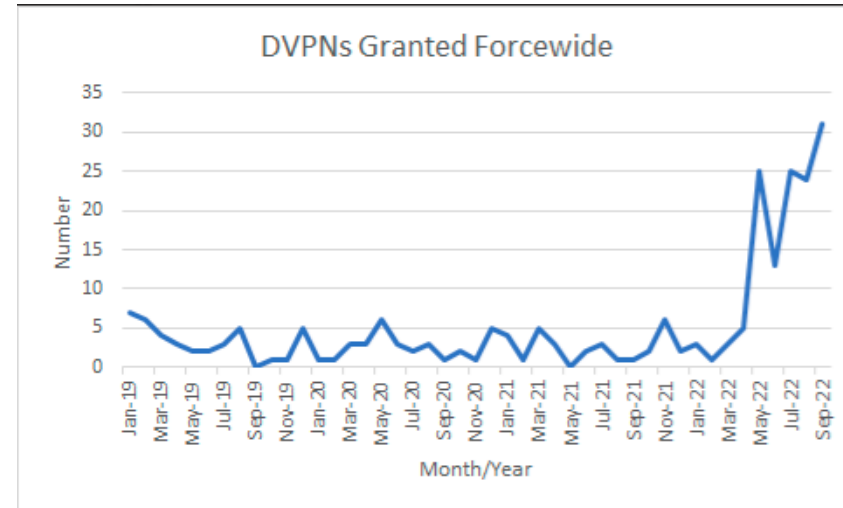
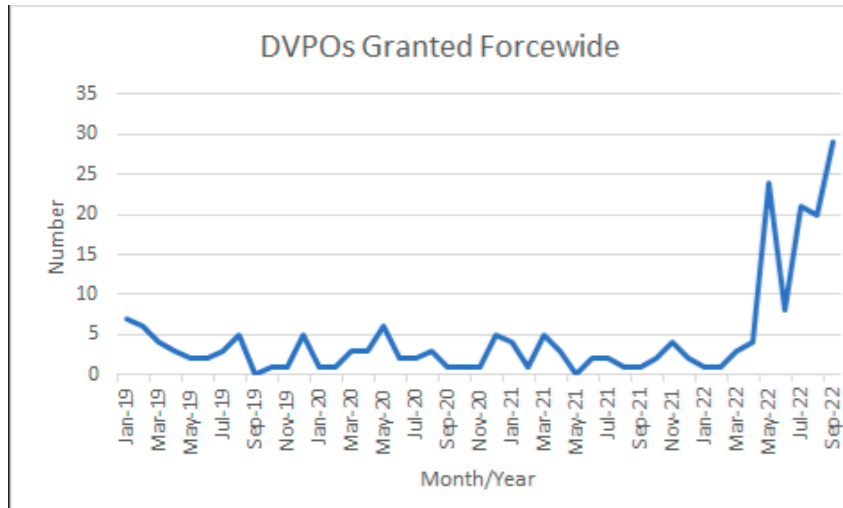
- Op Aident ran during September (targeting exploitation & modern slavery). This resulted in multiple arrests/charges and vulnerable individuals were safeguarded.
- In relation to Op Venetic, a principal nominal was sentenced to 15 years for conspiracy to supply class A drugs.
- Arrests have been made across all of the following threat areas: asset denial, county lines, drugs, money laundering, modern day slavery and organised acquisitive crime.

6. Tackling Domestic Abuse (DA) and Sexual Violence

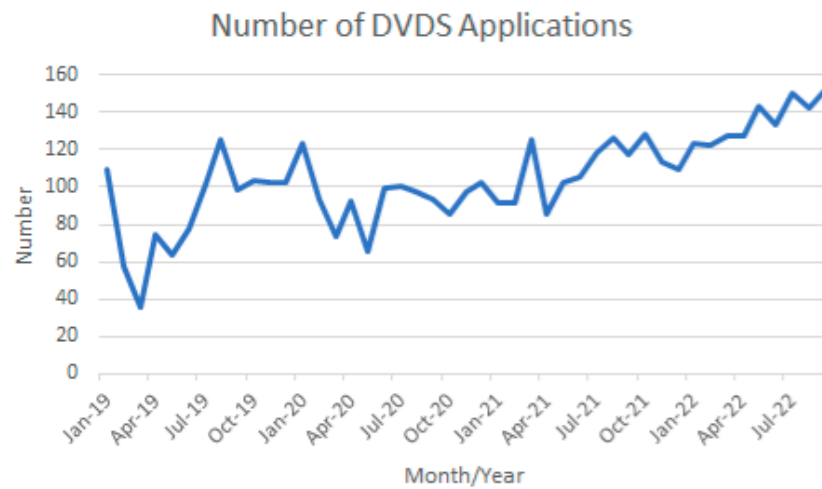
1 st April – 30 th September	DA Crime total	Percentage change vs. previous year
2019	10,918	-
2020	11,896	+9%
2021	13,311	+12%
2022	12,893	-3%

Key Headlines

- **DA incidents are tracking at a very similar level to last year, and the rate of increase of DA crimes continues to level off.** The recorded DA crime trend has flattened during 2022, after a steady but continual increase between 2019 and 2021. DA offences have seen a year-to-date reduction of 3%. Domestic Violence with Injury offences peaked in July but have decreased in both August and September, in line with expected seasonality. DA sexual Offences also followed this trend and almost halved in volume between July and September.
- The proportion of **DA victims satisfied with the police service they received is stable** – this remains at 85% for the last 12 months.
- Recorded Rape offences have decreased considerably, most likely due to training and a new process to increase scrutiny around crime recording integrity. However, Sexual Offences have continued on an upward trend overall since January 2021. A recent scoping report by the Constabulary’s Public Protection Unit confirmed the impact of social media and increases in third party reporting. In the first 6 months of 2022, almost 30% of reports were from third parties, which is 10% higher than in 2019.
- Lancashire’s VAWG Problem Profile was submitted in early September. The Constabulary awaits feedback and the identification of National themes from the Central Project team. The Constabulary’s dedicated VAWG DI has joined a National Working group around technology-enabled abuse in DA, Stalking and Harassment, which seeks to identify opportunities for enhanced training and awareness. A number of engagement opportunities with black and minoritised women have also proved valuable and relationships with other agencies including the third sector will seek to build on this foundation. The views of individuals with lived experience will inform an action plan for improved practice across the partnership landscape.



- Increases in the use of protective and preventative orders have continued (see above), as have the increases in applications to the DVDS (Clare’s Law). Close scrutiny of both continues.



7. Cracking Down on Burglary and Robbery

Key Headlines

- Almost all Burglary and Robbery offences have increased compared with the previous financial year to date (April -September 2022) – Personal Robbery slight decrease. However, all also remain at a lower volume than the same period in 2019/20. Personal Robbery volumes in the last quarter have been similar to Q4 2019. All Districts are showing an increase for offences of Burglary – Business and Community compared with last year, apart from Blackburn with Darwen and Rossendale.

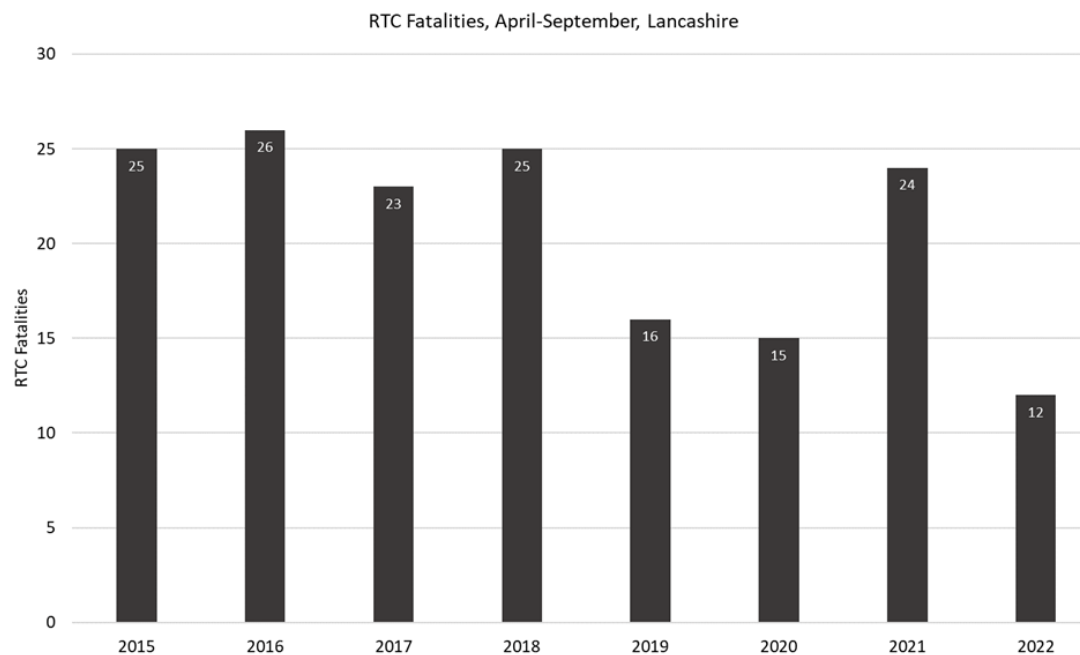
1st April – 30th September	Burglary Business and Community Crime total	Percentage change vs. previous year
2019	2,106	-
2020	1,388	-34%
2021	1,230	-11%
2022	1,416	+15%
1st April – 30th September	Burglary Residential Crime total	Percentage change vs. previous year
2019	3,844	-
2020	2,811	-27%
2021	2,338	-17%
2022	2,497	+7%
1st April – 30th September	Robbery Personal Crime total	Percentage change vs. previous year
2019	639	-
2020	457	-28%
2021	509	+11%
2022	502	-1%

1st April – 30th September	Robbery Business Crime total	Percentage change vs. previous year
2019	45	-
2020	25	-44%
2021	29	+16%
2022	37	+28%

- Residential Burglary outcomes increased throughout the last quarter to 8.9% in September – the highest monthly figure in a year. Burglary (Business and Community) outcomes are tracking higher in the calendar year to date than in any year since 2017 (10.83%).
- In the last quarter, the percentage of burglary victims satisfied with police actions and updates has increased (+3%) and the mean satisfaction score has increased to 5.5 (where 1 is completely dissatisfied and 7 is completely satisfied).
- Operation Defender was launched externally across Lancashire. This follows an internal launch in August and includes the printing of 500 crime prevention leaflets and purchase of crime prevention (Radio-frequency blocking card wallets and SelectaDNA kits) and awareness-raising merchandise, funded by the PCC, which has been distributed across Neighbourhood Policing Teams.
- Optimal Forager has been extended and has now gone live across every division. A weekly briefing report identifies areas at increased risk of Near Repeat Victimisation for residential burglary, which are prioritised for high visibility patrols. This increases the chance of identifying likely offenders and acts as a deterrent, through the presence of a capable guardian.

8. Targeting Dangerous Drivers

Key Headlines



- When compared to 2019 – a solid baseline due to the year being the first year of using CRASH and the last full year without COVID-affected road incidents and traffic flows – **casualties of road traffic collisions in Lancashire have reduced by 10.5%** (equating to 226 fewer RTC casualties within the first half of the 2022 fiscal year).
- However, there has been a **relative stagnation in KSI casualties** with a 1.4% reduction; 566 KSI casualties in 2019; 558 in 2022.

- **Road deaths in Lancashire are currently tracking at the lowest ever count at the half-year point**, with 12 being recorded during the April-September period. When contrasted to 2021, a statistically significant 50% reduction in road deaths is evident. However, 5 fatalities have unfortunately occurred in just 11 days during October.
- **Op Snap** – Since October 2021, there have been 2,204 dashcam submissions from the public and 58% have been actionable. A video montage featuring submitted incidents and final outcomes was published at the end of July 2022 and generated a considerable increase in submissions.
- **Operation Virage** is an intelligence led operation which aims to proactively manage, target, disrupt and prosecute identified nominals who pose a risk of impaired driving through drink and drugs across Lancashire. A current database of **315 targets** has been built utilising existing data held on Intelligence and ANPR systems. In total, to date, **225 vehicles & drivers have now been resolved through a mixture of impairment arrests and intercepts**. As part of an innovative approach to targeting impaired drivers, a new app is now available to officers and police staff where suspicions of drink driving can be submitted and following subsequent research, the suspects are raised as a target for impaired driving. **In September alone there were 69 interventions of which 20 were arrested, further leading to 2 x cases of child neglect.**
- **Op Galaxy** is an intelligence led approach to identifying cloned vehicles and the criminality relating to them. In August and September this year, there were a total of **511 cloned vehicle intercepts leading to 133 vehicles being recovered and 114 arrests** of criminals using the cloned vehicles to commit crimes using the roads of Lancashire.

Lastly, from a force perspective, **the first 8 new Volvo Roads Policing fleet have arrived in service** (ordered in August 2021); additional Volvo and Skoda vehicles are arriving regularly now at the conversion fitters.

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Meeting to be held on 5th December 2022

Police & Crime Commissioner Decisions

Contact for further information: Ian Dickinson, 01772 533462, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, ian.dickinson@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the report is to highlight decisions made by

- i) the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire, and
- ii) the Chief Executive, or authorised officer, under delegated authority in the period since the last meeting of the Panel on the 14th September 2022.

RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is asked to consider the report and raise any issues identified on the decisions presented.

1 Background

- 1.1. Under Section 28(6) of the Police Reform and Social responsibility Act 2011, the Panel is obliged to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Police and Crime Commissioner's functions and, where necessary, make reports or recommendations to the Police and Crime Commissioner with respect to the discharge of the Commissioner's functions.
- 1.2. The Commissioner is under a statutory obligation under the terms of the Specified Information Order to publish details of decisions of significant public interest. In more general terms under Section 13 of the 2011 Act, the Commissioner is obliged to ensure that he provides the Panel with any information that it might reasonably require to allow it to carry out its functions. This would include the provision of information regarding the Commissioner's decisions and actions, irrespective of whether they were to be considered to be of 'significant public interest'.
- 1.3. In this respect, the Commissioner publishes on his website all decisions he has made.
- 1.4. Further details on all these decisions are available for scrutiny on the Commissioner's Website at:-

<https://www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/transparency/decisions/>

2 Decisions made and/or published since the last scheduled meeting of the Police and Crime Panel

2.1 Drawing on the information published on the Commissioner's website, a number of decisions have been made since the report to the Panel at its last meeting on 14th September 2022. These are set out in the table below.

Decision Reference	Decision Title	PCC Priority	Date of Decision
2022/20	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund Community Fund	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	20/09/2022
2022/21	Contract Award for Video Content Production	Governance	14/09/2022
2022/22	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund Community Fund	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	26/10/2022
2022/23	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund Police Innovation Fund	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	26/10/2022
2022/24	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund Police Innovation Fund	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	31/10/2022
2022/25	COP Licence Variance and Memorandum of Understanding (restricted)	Governance	18/10/2022
2022/26	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund - Fighting Crime Fund (bonfire night)	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	07/11/2022
2022/27	Section 22 North West Regional Organised Crime Unit	Governance	28/11/2022

	Delegated Decisions	Governance	28/11/2022
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3. Chief Executive's Delegated Decisions

- 3.1 The Panel will recall that the Commissioner has agreed to the Chief Executive's delegated decisions being published.
- 3.2 A report detailing the exercise of her delegations made since the last meeting was presented to the Commissioner on the 28th November 2022. This report has been published along with all other decisions made by the Commissioner on the website and is available for inspection via the following link.

<https://www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/transparency/decisions/>

4. Conclusion

- 4.2 In accordance with its statutory duty, the Panel has the opportunity to scrutinise and review the decisions made and published as set out in the report now presented.

Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire

Meeting to be held on the 5th December 2022

Progress of the Task Groups

Contact for further information: Paul Conlon, Democratic Services,
paul.conlon@blackburn.gov.uk

Executive Summary

This report encloses the report of the Task Group set up by the handling of 101 Calls, the way 101 calls were handled, the operation of the newly redesigned control room and the delivery of anticipated outcomes with recommendations for the Panel to consider. An update on the progress of the Task Group to look at Domestic Abuse and Violence against Women and Girls and the Rural Crime is set out below.

Recommendation

1. That the Panel note progress of the Task Groups.
2. That consideration be given to the recommendations of the 101 and Force Control Room Task Group set out in the report.

Background and Advice

The Panel establishes task groups to look at areas of the Commissioners work to enable a members to gain a more in depth insight and consider recommendations. The Panel has two Task Groups ongoing at the moment with the third presenting its recommendations to this meeting.

101 and Force Control Room Task Group.

The recommendations of the Task Group are set out in the report for consideration by the Panel. These recommendations have been shared with the Commissioner.

Review of Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls.

This Task Group has met on a number of occasions to agree terms of reference and has met with the commissioner to look at the detail behind the vision set out in the Policing Plan. The Group will now meet with the Police to look at how the issue is dealt with at a Policing Level and then with services who support victims of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls. The Task Group will present their report to the next meeting of the Panel.

Rural Crime Task Group.

This task group has agreed its scope and focus for the review of Rural Crime and the way that funding has been used. The Task Group has received background information on the issue to set the scene and will be meeting to look at how policing is carried out on the ground. The Task Group will then meet with the Commissioner to discuss how his policing plan seeks to tackle the issue.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications contained in the report.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact
Police and Crime Plan for Lancashire 2021-2025	December 2021	PCC's Office
Notes from the meetings of the Task Groups,	7/04/22, 28/06/22, 24/08/22, 5/09/22, 14/10/22, 21/11/22.	Democratic Services, Blackburn with Darwen BC Paul Conlon 01254 585957

1. The Task Group Looking at 101 Calls and the Operation of the Force Control Centre

The Task Group consisted of Councillors Berry, Brunskill and Hurt and had been set up to look at the how 101 calls were handled, the operation of the newly redesigned control room and the delivery of anticipated outcomes.

2. The Role of the Task Group

The group firstly noted the relationship between the policing plan which sets out the intentions of the Police and Crime Commissioner on his priorities for policing in the County and the role of the Chief Constable who delivers policing in the County. The group noted that-

(1) A Police and Crime Commissioner must, in exercising the functions of commissioner, have regard to the police and crime plan issued by himself.

(2) The Chief Constable of the police force for a police area listed in Schedule 1 to the Police Act 1996 must, in exercising the functions of chief constable, have regard to the police and crime plan issued by the police and crime commissioner for that police area.

A breakdown of the roles and functions of are set out at appendix A.

The role of the Task Group was to look at and make recommendations on the issue of non-emergency calls received by the police and the operation of the Force Control Room.

3. Scope and Focus of the Groups Work

The group had agreed their method of work as follows

- To look at the vision that led to the redesign of the control room and the key outcomes that were perceived.
- To receive updates on progress to date and key milestones since implementation.
- To look at key work practices that deliver outcomes.
- To look at areas that are still in development to deliver the vision and the barriers to these.
- To look at response times to emergence and other non-emergency calls.
- To look at call abandonment rates.
- To look at comparative data from authorities/inspection reports.
- To look at the future development and service enhancement.
- The visit the force control room and look at the centre in action.
- To discuss with the commissioner his vision for the response to customer contacts in policing plan based on the evidence gathered.
- To report the findings to the PCC.

4. Visit to the Force Control Centre

The Task Group commenced its work by visiting the Force Control Room at Headquarters. The group were shown the centre in working conditions.

The group were informed of the reasons that the call centre had been re-organised and the issues that had led to this decision being taken. The centre now covered all the regions of the division under one roof and the control mechanisms of the centre were explained.

The control room was divided into Areas relating to geographical split of the county with north, west and east areas and separate areas for NPR and a switchboard area that took non-emergency calls and directed them where required.

The sections or area pods reflect the split of the county into 3 Police Divisions, East, West and South. Pods were divided in to call receivers and Police radio operators.

Members were informed that all calls were first handled by BT who then directly connected it to which ever service was required/requested. (i.e. Police, Fire and Rescue or Ambulance)

The Task Group were shown the operation of the system and how the operators handled the calls they received. The group were appraised of the way that the system linked with other agencies such as fire and ambulance and how these agencies could be contacted at the same time as police resources were being deployed.

The group looked at the training that operators received and how they ensured that quality was maintained.

The use of CCTV cameras to monitor and assist in call handling was displayed and members were informed that although CCTV was monitored from the Centre in Blackburn the control room could tap into any camera for real time pictures that could help with understanding and interpreting situations.

The group were informed that the control room had just introduced the new switchboard to answer non urgent calls which had previously been dealt with by the teams. It was hoped that this would reduce the pressure on the teams by ensuring that the calls could be directed where necessary and not block the system. This was an area that the Task Group would revisit in the coming months

The group looked at the type of calls that were received by the non-urgent service and how the number of non-police related calls effected the service delivered by the control room. This was particularly relevant when the other services closed down for the weekend etc.

The Task Group looked at the geographical information that came through with calls and how this assisted in dealing them.

5. Performance of the Call Centre

Members looked at the monitoring and performance data that was submitted to the Commissioner on a regular basis. This highlighted the response times for both urgent and non- urgent calls together with the levels of calls abandoned. This was discussed with the commissioner at the follow up meeting.

Members noted that the figures were pre the introduction of the dedicated switchboard for dealing with non-emergency calls and this would have a major influence on the work of the centre. This could be revisited once the data relating to the introduction had been running for some time.

6. Meeting with the Commissioner.

Following on from the visit to the call centre the Task Group met with the Commissioner to discuss their initial findings and the Commissioner's vision for the development of the service. This meeting provided clarity to the members of the task group on a number of issues and assisted in formulation of the final recommendations from the group. Members were updated on the outcome of the PEEL Review and the positive comments on Policing in the County.

7. Recommendations from the Task Group

The Chair of the Task Group met with the Commissioner in November and presented the following recommendations to the Police and Crime Commissioner which are now before the panel for consideration.

- 1 That the Commissioner, support staff and Police be thanked for their support and assistance.
2. That the work of the members no longer on the PCP be noted.
3. That the following recommendations relating to the working of the non- urgent call handling be submitted to the PCP for consideration and submission to the Police Commissioner for response.
 - a. That the monitoring of data submitted to the Commissioners Scrutiny Meetings be shared with the PCP to enable members to measure progress in dealing with non-urgent calls.
 - b. That with regards to the 101 calls that relate to non-policing matters, particularly those coming in during evenings and at weekends that relate mostly to mental health issues, the task group recommend that the Commissioner contact the NHS and the Unitary Social Services Departments to make sure they have appropriate out of hours contact provision and that Councils have an emergency contact number. The Panel is recommended to support the work of the Commissioner on this issue.
 - c. That the Commissioner be recommended to consider the benefits of merging the social media and telephone call centres to ensure consistency of service and cross reporting etc. and the Commissioner continue to promote the digital service to relieve pressure on telephone services.
 - d. That the positive work of the switchboard in directing and dealing with calls be supported and continue to be monitored and reviewed.
 - e. That the benefit of the control centre being able to dial into town centre CCTV schemes be noted and the Commissioner be recommended to look at the possibility of extending this service particularly as in certain cases funding from the PCC has been used to assist setting up these schemes.

Appendix A

Role: Police and Crime Commissioner

Responsibility

- To secure an efficient and effective police force for Lancashire.
- To appoint /remove from office, the Chief Constable and hold him to account.
- To set the strategic direction and objectives for Lancashire Constabulary.
- To publish a Police and Crime Plan for Lancashire.
- To set the budgets and determine the council tax precept.
- To issue an annual report.
- To monitor all complaints made against officers and staff, whilst having responsibility for complaints against the Chief Constable.
- To be the local link between the Police and communities.

Role: Chief Constable

Responsibility

- To maintain the Queen's peace.
- The direction and control of staff and officers.
- To be responsible to the public and accountable to the PCC.
- To be the operational voice in policing.
- To be politically independent of the PCC.
- For the day-to-day responsibility of allocated budgets.
- For managing complaints against police officers and staff.

Role: Police and Crime Panel

Responsibility

- To scrutinise the PCC's exercise of their statutory functions.
- To be responsible for complaints about a PCC.
- To review the draft Police and Crime Plan and the precept and make recommendations to the PCC.
- To hold confirmation hearings for the proposed appointments of Chief Constable, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer.
- For suspending the Police and Crime Commissioner if charged with an imprisonable offence or appointing an acting Police and Crime Commissioner where the incumbent is incapacitated, resigns or is disqualified.

Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire

Meeting to be held on the 5th December 2022

:

Annual Police (Fire) and Crime Panels Conference 2022

Contact for further information: Phil Llewellyn, Corporate and Democratic Lead,
phil.llewellyn@blackburn.gov.uk

Executive Summary

This report gives details of the 11th National Conference for Chairs, Members and Officers of Police (Fire) and Crime Panels held on 10th and 11th November 2022.

Recommendation

That the Panel note the report.

Background and Advice

The 11th National Conference for Chairs, Members and Officers of Police (Fire) and Crime Panels was held on Thursday 10th November and Friday 11th November 2022, organised by Frontline Consulting in collaboration with Grant Thornton, at the University of Warwick.

The Vice Chair, Councillor Roger Berry attended the Conference (online), along with the Secretary to the Panel, Asad Laher, and Phil Llewellyn who attended in person.

The Conference Plenary Theme was 'Changing Culture. Moving Things Forward'.

Conference Details

This year the Conference was a hybrid event, with a mix of attendance in person and on-line.

The Opening Conference Plenary discussed 'Changing Culture. Moving Things Forward' with Dr Sarah Charman, Professor of Criminology at the University of Portsmouth, presenting her findings on Police Culture and learning from an academic perspective, which highlighted some of the issues new recruits face and how their perspective changes after several years as a serving police officer.

Sal Naseem, Regional Director for London, at the Independent Office for Police Conduct, presented from a regulatory perspective, and highlighted some harrowing cases his team had investigated that had been high profile news stories over recent years.

Chris Excell, a serving Police Inspector and ex Chair of the Black Police Association presented from an officer perspective on his experience and gave his views on the way forward.

There was a general view in the Plenary discussion that there was a need for Leadership training, which involved outside perspectives, in order to help change the culture within police forces.

The Panel's three delegates attended the following Breakout Sessions in order to gain as much information as possible, with the following sessions attended:

- Being a critical friend. Joining the dots
- The financial impact on Policing. Where do we go from here?
- Measuring Panel Performance

Key takeaways from these sessions included the need for consistent Panel Membership where possible, the benefits of Independent Chairs, the need to focus on the Commissioners Police and Crime Plan, rather than focussing on the Police, the need for scrutiny to be appropriately resourced, and the value of using external data when scrutinising the PCC, such as H.M.I.C reports.

All three delegates found the Conference very informative and particularly useful in terms of networking, bench marking and sharing good practice.

Attendance at such Conferences and Seminars are a very helpful way of checking the Panel is on the right track when carrying out its functions and is receiving the latest information on emerging policy developments and best practice.

Financial Implications

Attendance at the Conference, including travel and accommodation, was funded via the Home Office Grant to the Lancashire Police and Crime Panel.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact
		Phil Llewellyn 01254 585369

Agenda item

Police and Crime Panel

Meeting to be held on 5th December 2022

COMPLAINTS UPDATE

Contact for further information:

Asad Laher (01254) 585495 Secretary Lancashire Police & Crime Panel,
asad.laher@blackburn.gov.uk

Executive Summary

This report sets out the current position with regard to communications relating to potential complaints received and an update on an ongoing complaint referred to at the Panel Meeting on 14 September 2022, in relation to the Police and Crime Commissioner and Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner.

Recommendation

That the update in relation to communications and complaints be noted.

Background and Advice

Through the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the Lancashire Police and Crime Panel has a duty to record and consider non-criminal complaints made against the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) when acting in relation to their policing and crime functions, and the Deputy Policing and Crime Commissioner (DPCC).

The Secretary of the Panel has authority for filtering complaints and must refer the following to the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC):

- A 'serious complaint' (i.e. a complaint that constitutes or involves or appears to constitute or involve, the commission of a criminal offence)
- A recorded 'conduct matter' (i.e. where there exists an indication that the PCC/DPCC may have committed a criminal offence and this comes to light other than by way of a complaint.

Many issues and concerns raised do not relate directly to the conduct of the PCC/DPCC and therefore do not, under legislation come under the jurisdiction of the Police & Crime Panel.

Many communications received although purport to be complaints against the PCC/DPCC focus but actually relate to concerns on the alleged conduct of police officers, conduct of police investigations/operations or that of the chief

constable. These are matters for which there are other complaints processes and/or, appropriate authorities to deal with such matters.

Since the last meeting of the Panel the Secretary has received a purported complaint against the PCC. However, the OPCC has confirmed that it is an operational matter currently being dealt with by the Professional Standards Department of Lancashire Constabulary, and that the PCC has not been involved. There is also an ongoing matter in relation to both PCC and DPCC, which is still being considered by Secretary as to the appropriate process, and despite requests from the complainant for clarity on the allegations made, no coherent response has been received explaining clearly the basis for the allegations made. The Secretary will be consulting with Complaints Sub-committee on 5th December 2022 to consider the appropriate process for dealing with the matter.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Legal Implications

The Police and Crime Panel (PCP) has the statutory role of overseeing all complaints against the PCC/DPCC, and informally resolving non-criminal complaints. This is set out in the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012.

In relation to Part 4 of the Regulations and the informal resolution procedure, the Panel have established a Sub-Committee to facilitate an informal resolution of the complaint and report back to the Panel the conclusion of the process. The sub-committee cannot investigate the complaint; it can only subject the complaint to an informal resolution.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. It is proposed the handling of such complaints will be contained within existing resources and the grant funding provided by the Home Office.

Risk management

The requirement to monitor and record complaints against the PCC and DPCC is in accordance with the provisions of The Elected Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012.

**Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers**

Paper

Date

Contact/Directorate/Tel