

# Public Document Pack

## Police & Crime Panel for Lancashire

Tuesday, 3rd October, 2023

4.00 pm

Meeting Room A

[Link to Webcast](#)

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### AGENDA

1. **Welcome and Apologies**
2. **Minutes of the last meeting**  
**Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire AGM Minutes July 2023** **3 - 10**
3. **Declarations of Interest**
4. **Public Questions**
5. **Chief Constable Verbal Update**
6. **Performance Update**  
**PCC update October 23 v2 performance report** **11 - 35**
7. **PCC Decisions**  
**Decision Report** **36 - 38**
8. **Task and Finish Groups - Verbal Updates from Chairs and draft Work Programme**  
**PCP Task and Finish Work Programme 2023-24** **39**
9. **Allowances - Co-opted Independent Members**  
**PCP Payment of Allowances to Independent Co-opted Members** **40 - 42**
10. **Complaints Verbal 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 Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 in Meeting Room A at Blackburn Town Hall.

Date Published: 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## **Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire**

**Minutes of the Annual General meeting held Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

### **Present:**

#### **Chair**

Councillor Jackie Oakes, Rossendale Borough Council

#### **Committee Members**

Councillor Alistair Bradley, Chorley Borough Council  
Councillor Jan Alcock, Ribble Valley Borough Council  
Councillor Qesir Mahmood, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council  
Councillor Gareth Dowling, West Lancs Borough Council  
Councillor Peter Hunter, Blackpool Council  
Councillor Mark Townsend, Burnley Borough Council  
Councillor David Whipp, Pendle Borough Council  
Councillor Peter Edwards, Hyndburn Borough Council  
Councillor Pat Varty, Preston City Council  
Councillor Roger Berry, Wyre Borough Council  
Councillor Catherine Armistead, Lancaster City Council  
Miranda Carruthers-Watt, Independent Co-opted Member.

#### **Also in attendance**

- Andrew Snowden, Police and Crime Commissioner
- Ian Dickinson, Office of the PCC
- Asad Laher, Secretary
- Phil Llewellyn, Democratic and Scrutiny Lead

### **1. Appointment of Chair 2023/24**

The Secretary of the Panel, Asad Laher, welcomed all to the meeting and announced the next item of business, which was the Appointment of Chair for 2023/24.

The Secretary requested nominations for Chair of the Panel for 2023/24, Councillor Qesir Mahmood nominated Councillor Jackie Oakes, which was seconded by Councillor David Whipp. No other nominations were received.

**RESOLVED** – That Councillor Jackie Oakes be appointed Chair of the Panel for 2023/24.

*(Councillor Jackie Oakes in the Chair).*

### **2. Appointment of Deputy Chairman**

The Chair requested nominations for Deputy Chair of the Panel for 2023/24 and nominated Councillor Roger Berry, which was seconded by Councillor Quesir Mahmood. No other nominations were received.

**RESOLVED** - That Councillor Roger Berry be appointed Deputy Chair of the Panel for 2023/24.

### **3. Membership Review 2023/24**

The Secretary presented a report which advised that the Lancashire Police & Crime Panel consisted 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 could be co-opted in order to achieve the 'balanced appointment objective' (as far as reasonably practicable), and best represented the overall political make up of all the 15 local authorities in the police area. There was 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 been 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 had been grouped together as 'Other' and similarly, all the 'Independent' elected Members from the 15 local authorities had been being grouped together. The Panel's Arrangements enabled additional elected members to be co-opted to achieve the 'balanced appointment objective', provided the total membership did not exceed 20. Based on the information provided by the 15 local authorities, the overall political composition for the police area was:

Lab	48.71%
Con	34.34%
Lib	6.47%
Ind	5.45%
Green	5.03%
Total	100%

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

<b>Lab</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Con</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Lib Dem</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Ind</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Green</b>	<b>1</b>

The Panel haD appointed 2 Independent Co-opted Members, who were not elected representatives to serve on the Panel: Richard Glover and Miranda Carruthers-Watt .

The nominations received from the 15 local authorities for the 2023/24 Panel membership of 15 elected members was:

Lab - 9  
Con - 5  
Lib Dem- 1

In light of this and in accordance with guidance, the 15 local authorities (via their Leaders) were invited to review/change their nominations in order to correlate closely with the politically balanced composition, as detailed above (and achieve the 'balanced appointment objective'). To date, no confirmation had been received.

The next step therefore was to co-opt additional elected members up to the maximum of 18 elected members, in order to address the 'balanced appointment objective' (as far as reasonably practicable). This had previously been agreed by the Panel to consider, and closely align the composition of the Panel with the overall political composition of the police force area. The additional 3 seats proposed and the names of those proposed additional elected members required the unanimous agreement of the 15 elected core membership (i.e. those nominated by the 15 local authorities). This would be subject to notification and approval of the Home Office, with an explanation of the reasoning for their appointments.

On the basis that 15 local authorities' nominations remain unchanged, and applying the 3 co-opted additional elected member seats the full composition of the 2022/23 membership for the Panel would be as follows:

**Lab - 9** (as nominated): [50%]  
**Con - 6** ( 5 as nominated + 1 co-opted additional elected member seats): [33.33%]  
**Lib Dem - 1** (as nominated): [5.55%]  
**Ind - 1** (co-opted additional elected member seat): [5.55%]  
**Green - 1** (co-opted additional elected member seat): [5.55%]

**Independent co-opted (non –political) - 2**

**Total – 20 seats (maximum).**

It was advised that the Local Authorities combined must 'agree' to the composition of the Panel and that the Home Office had powers to intervene and make appointments if agreement could not be reached locally, however, it had been made clear that the best Panel arrangements were those which were locally determined.

Balancing the geographical, political make-up of the 15 local authorities, and the skills and experience needed for the Panel to discharge its functions effectively, the following 3 co-opted additional elected members were suggested to the Panel:

1. Wyre Borough Council - a Conservative co-opted additional member from this area of the police force would assist towards achieving a more balanced Panel. The Council's political composition comprises: Lab 15, Con 30, and Independent 3. Councillor Peter Le Marinel could be nominated as their co-opted additional member, having previously served the Panel and would possess the necessary the skills and experience.
2. Lancaster City Council - a Green Party co-opted additional member from Council would also assist towards achieving a more balanced Panel. The Council's political composition comprises: Lab 24, Con 5, Lib Dem 7, Green 21, MBI 3, Non-aligned 1.
3. Fylde Borough Council – an Independent co-opted additional member from the Council would again assist to achieve a more politically balanced Panel. The Council's political composition comprises: Lab 2, Con19, Lib 2, Independent 12, and Non-aligned 2.

Members then discussed the report and moved to the vote.

#### **RESOLVED – That the Panel:**

1. Confirm the Panel Membership for 2023/2024 as 15 core Elected Members (plus 2 co-opted Independent Members ) plus agree, subject to Home Office approval 3 additional co-opted elected members as set out in this report, to achieve the 'balanced appointment objective' (as far as reasonably practicable).
2. Subject to 1 above, to note that the Secretary will notify the Home Office of the 3 additional co-opted elected members and the reasons how their appointments would assist in meeting the 'balanced appointment objective'.
3. Note the Panel's governance arrangements as published on the Host Authority's website (contained in the report).

#### **4. Host Authority and Secretary to the Panel**

**RESOLVED** – That Blackburn with Darwen continue as Host Authority for 2023-24, and that Asad Laher be continue as Secretary to the Panel for 2023-24.

#### **5. Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Councillors Green, Dixon, and Flannery, and from the Independent Co-opted Member, Richard Glover.

#### **6. Minutes of the last meeting**

**RESOLVED** - The Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

## **7. Declarations of Interest**

No Declarations of Interest were submitted.

## **8. Public Questions**

No public questions had been received.

## **9. PCC Annual Report 2022-23**

The Commissioner submitted his Annual Report for 2022-23, which provided an opportunity to review the work carried out over the last financial year to deliver the priorities set out in the Commissioner's Plan, which was launched in 2021. The Commissioner highlighted some of the key parts of the report and asked for any comments from Members.

In response to questions from Councillor Whipp on the Commissioner's confidence in the accuracy of data on reported incidents and offences of page 15 and 16 of the report, the Commissioner referenced under reporting of Neighbourhood ASB figures, as such information would always need a caveat, and the figures involved multi-agency reporting, with different systems, and his office were currently recruiting a data analyst to look at such data sets. In terms of the Constabulary data collected, the PCC advised that external inspection results led to confidence in the data.

Councillor Whipp, referencing page 18 of the report, which detailed the PCCs commitment to tackling Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence, questioned why the Commissioner had axed funding for Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs), when they played an integral part in the process. Councillor Whipp indicated that it was vital that the funding was reinstated. The Commissioner advised that DHRs were not budgeted for, and had been funded via Reserves, and that funding of £130k still continued. The Commissioner also referenced forthcoming new responsibilities for PCCs relating to Serious Violence. The PCC confirmed that funding would continue ahead of reviews by local Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and that he would together with them. The PCC also agreed to share correspondence with Andrew Ridgewell, Chair of the Lancashire CSP on this issue.

Finally, the Commissioner advised that residents registering with 'Lancashire Talking' was a key way to get residents to report crime, and even if not all crime was able to be investigated, the system allowed for feedback to them. Operation Centurion also helped drive up registrations.

## **RESOLVED –**

1. That the report be noted; and

2. That the PCC submit a report to the next meeting of the Panel on funding for Domestic Homicide Reviews.

## **10. PCC Update Report**

The Commissioner submitted a report which provided Members of the Panel with an update on progress in developing the Police and Crime Plan for 2021-2025 and also highlighted some of the activity of the PCC and his Office.

Members of the Panel asked a number of questions and made comments in particular on:

- The increase in Firearms Offences and Knife Crimes
- The impact of the withdrawal of Police support for local events
- Victims being let down by low convictions, length of prosecution process
- The need for more PCSOs

The Commissioner responded to the questions and comments, advising of Police activity to target gun and knife crime, with knife crime particularly leading to more serious injuries, this including additional Police patrols, Stop and Search, and additional funding to educate and prevent.

In terms of support for local events such as Remembrance Sunday, the PCC advised that this had come about following 2018 guidance from the National Police Council that traffic management/road closures was not a Police role, unless it was an emergency situation. The Commissioner was aware of the costs of traffic management via private companies, and discussions were ongoing with the Police and LCCAM about the possibility of introducing an accredited volunteer scheme.

In relation to Victim Support, the PCC agreed with the concerns expressed, but advised that figures were reducing, and outlined new measures involving dedicated Police investigators for each case and the hope that the same could be achieved with CPS lawyers. The PCC also advised that some victims did not want Police action. The Commissioner also advised of tailored support via Victim Services. At this point, Cllr Varty gave details of her own recent traumatic experience involving ASB and knife crime, and the lack of follow up by Victim Services, and the PCC agreed to pick this up outside the meeting. The Commissioner also referenced ongoing work with CSPs on increased use of Civil Powers.

Finally, in terms of PCSOs, the PCC noted their success, and advised that numbers were currently down, and more were needed, along with more Special Constables.

**RESOLVED** – That the report be noted.



## **11. PCC Decisions**

A report was submitted on decisions made by the PCC or Director, or authorised officer, under delegated authority in the period since the last meeting of the Panel on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

Further to discussions earlier in the meeting, Cllr David Whipp requested that Decision Reference 2022/48 be reviewed – Funding for Domestic Homicide Reviews, which was seconded by Cllr Gareth Dowling.

**RESOLVED** – That the report be noted, and that the Commissioner be requested to review Decision Reference 2022/48.

## **12. Task and Finish Groups 2023-24 and Forward Plan 2023-24**

Members discussed the Task and Finish Groups for 2022-23, which had been agreed as:

- DRSA Teams – violence against Women and Girls
- £700k Rural Crime Team Funding

It was noted that membership of the Panel, and therefore Task and Finish Groups, had changed, and Members discussed progress and membership.

Councillor Mark Townsend, Chair of the DRSA Teams – violence against Women and Girls Task and Finish Group, advised that the Group had completed their work, and that he would submit a report to the October meeting of the Panel.

Miranda Carruthers-Watt advised she would happy to assist the Rural Crime Task and Finish Group along with Councillor Jan Alcock.

In terms of new Task and Finish Groups, Cllr David Whipp suggested the 101 Service and the DHR funding, with Members agreeing that the 101 Service should be looked at later in the year, and the DHR funding was already subject to further scrutiny via the main Panel as agreed earlier in the meeting.

Cllr Dowling suggested a future item for the Work Programme could be Retail Crime.

**RESOLVED** - That the Work Programme for Task and Finish Groups for 2023-24 be submitted to the next meeting, with work continuing in the meantime on the Rural Crime Group.

## **13. Budget Statement 2023/24**

A report was submitted which outlined Panel expenditure in 2022-23 containing a breakdown of costs and expenditure as submitted to the Home Office for the Grant Claim for 2022-23.

Members were also requested to consider the payment of allowances to Independent Co-opted Members.

**RESOLVED –**

1. That the expenditure for 2022/23 be noted and that the report and breakdown be published on the PCP Website.
2. That a report be submitted to the October meeting containing recommendations for the payment of allowances to Independent Co-opted Members.

**14. Monitoring of Complaints**

Members received a verbal update from the Secretary, who had advised that no complaints had been received since the last meeting of the Panel.

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

**15. Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

**19. Date of next meeting**

The Panel noted the meeting dates for 2023-24, with the next meeting taking place at 4pm on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 at Blackburn Town Hall.

Signed.....Chair  
2023

## **POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

**Meeting to be held on 3 October 2023**

### **Police & Crime Commissioner's update**

Contact for further information Ian Dickinson, 01772 533587, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, [ian.dickinson@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk](mailto:ian.dickinson@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. The latest Accountability Board, scrutinising the Chief Constable on the delivery of his Police and Crime Plan priorities, took place in August.

Items discussed included:

- Latest crime statistics showed an overall drop in crime of 6% compared to the previous year and a look at the data behind enforcement actions including arrests, charges, and convictions.
- Successful Op Warrior operations including dismantling of cannabis factories valued at more than £2m dismantled, cash seizures including one for £250k and targeting of drugs lines.

- Discussion of ongoing improvements to police infrastructure

Operation Centurion was launched in July and backed by the Police and Crime Commissioner and £2m of extra funding secured from the Government's new Anti-social Behaviour Action Plan for specific ASB hotspot areas.

In addition to business as usual the operation, has seen extra police patrols in ASB hotspots across the county and tough action being taken against offenders by Police and partner agencies who use the full force of the law – as well as civil powers – to protect local communities.

The first six hotspots which have seen additional dedicated patrols are areas within Preston, Chorley, Blackpool, Fleetwood, Padiham, and Accrington.

Over July and August Lancashire Police have dealt with over 400 individuals for ASB across

- 130 people have been arrested for offences relating to drug supply offences.
- 278 people have been arrested for criminal damage.
- 37 civil orders have been issued.

5. At the end of July, the Police and Crime Commissioner visited the Cuerden enforcement check site, just off the M65 and M6, during an operation that focused on tackling dangerous drivers.

Operation Vertebrae saw increased enforcement across the M6 corridor as the longest motorway in the country, targeting speeding, mobile phone and seat belt use, drink, and drug driving, alongside vehicle safety. It brought together National Highways, Lancashire Constabulary the DVLA and others, building on year-round enforcement.

204 fixed penalty notices were handed out and £16k in fines were issued during the week.

6. The Police and Crime Commissioner has spent time throughout the summer, joining local Members of Parliament and the respective policing teams within their constituencies, out on patrol seeing how Lancashire Constabulary and our partners are getting tough on anti-social behaviour through Op Centurion.

MPs have had a direct opportunity to hear how the ASB campaign is progressing, and how additional patrols through the Government's hotspot funding is keeping people safe.

During patrols in areas like Accrington, Lancaster, and others the Commissioner has seen officers intervene on dangerous and anti-social driving, street drinking and drug dealing.

7. The Commissioner supported businesses in Bacup and answered questions from the public at a meeting organised by Bacup Business Association.

It saw residents share their views on the key issues facing the town and how the police can better support business owners.

During the meeting the Commissioner answered questions and highlighted ways Bacup has benefited from investment through his Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund for CCTV and diversionary activity, alongside additional police officers with the bolstering of the dedicated neighbourhood policing team.

8. At the end of August, the Police and Crime Commissioner announced another round of funding through his Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund, with £69k being invested through the following projects.

Community Fund:

- Accrington Stanley Community Trust – sport based diversionary activity to reduce anti-social behaviour across Hyndburn- £9,500
- Burnley Leisure & Culture Group – diversionary activity with sports focus to reduce anti-social behaviour – £10,000.
- Flowhesion – workshops with young people around the dangers of drugs, co-designed by young people – £10,000.
- The Salvation Army – CCTV upgrade around the centre in Hyndburn where anti-social behaviour is taking place – £4,000.
- Chorley Borough Council – summer holiday diversionary activity in areas identified as ant-social behaviour hotspot areas – £3,228.
- RAFT (Residents Association of Farringdon and Thirlmere) – early intervention in the Farringdon Park area working with young people to reduce anti-social behaviour – £7,755.
- Blackpool Council – prevention and diversionary activity through youth work in anti-social behaviour hotspot areas – £10,000
- Blackpool Stanley Rugby Club – coaching sessions for young people, outside of school time, to reduce anti-social behaviour – £8,040.

Police innovation Fund:

- Lancashire Talking – promoting “In The Know” for better engagement with residents & South rural taskforce – security markings for property in rural areas to prevent burglary and theft - £6,744

9. A further £53,879 was provided to 6 projects through:

#### Community Fund:

- 180 Programme - CrossFit programme aimed at providing a structured and supportive environment for young people - £10,000.
- The Bacup Family Centre – Opening of a Child & Youth Hub, 'The Station' delivering sessions addressing issues having a negative impact on young people's lives - £10,000.
- Longridge Community Action – Friday Night Youth Club tackling ASB through prevention, diversion, and intervention - £10,000.
- Empowerment Charity - The Youth Change Makers project is a youth led approach to preventing youth interpersonal violence through, campaigning, education, culture change and challenging systems - £9,599.
- BDS Training - project based on a bespoke learning programme designed specially to meet these priorities and targeting young people aged 12-18, taking 16 sessions to complete - £9,280.
- Chorley Borough Council – Licensing accreditation scheme for Chorley, Licensing Security and Vulnerability Initiative (Licensing SAVI)(pilot) - £5,000

#### Police Innovation Fund:

- Cyber Crime Unit – Cyber Protect Conference. The event is aimed at Disrupting and Dismantling Serious and Organised Crime by providing Cyber protection / security advice to Small and Medium Enterprises from across Lancashire to safeguard their existing infrastructures from compromise and protect the data of public of Lancashire from theft abuse- £1,840.

#### Fighting Crime Grants:

- Blackpool Council – support for additional Council patrols that will support the Blackpool Op Centurion Patrol Plan – £18,000

10. The Police and Crime Commissioner joined officers in the newly re-modelled Roads Crime Team, which, since launching in June has already made 92 arrests, seized 90 stolen vehicles and stolen cash and drugs.

To assist in the changes, the Constabulary has also been taking delivery of a range of new high-performance vehicles, fitted with the latest law enforcement technology to help target criminals, with more over the coming months.

11. The Deputy Commissioner Andy Pratt MBE met with Mike Freer MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for the Ministry of Justice, to discuss issues including court delays and staffing and how they affect victims of crime and the wider criminal justice system in Lancashire.

They discussed several options and ideas to help the situation to ease the pressures around court buildings and staffing to reduce delays and speed up justice.

12. The Right Care, Right Person, which Lancashire has been pioneering for a year, has now been rolled out on a wider basis nationally, with the Commissioner highlighting the work ensuring vulnerable people receive the specialist health support they need whilst also recognising the savings to police officer time and budget through the approach.

### **Recommendation**

13. 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

## National Picture

### National Crime and Policing Measures

Target	Measure	12 months to June 2022	12 months to June 2023	% Change vs Previous Year
Reduce Murder/Homicide	Recorded Homicides	22	14	-36.4%
Reduce Serious violence	Firearms Offences (includes all uses however excludes air weapons and bb guns)	75	77	2.7%
	Discharges of Lethal Barrelled Firearms (handguns, shotguns and rifles - not air)	8	6	-25%
	Presentations to ED with knife/sharp object assault injuries	106*	102*	-3.8%
Reduce Neighbourhood Crime	Recorded Burglary, Robbery, Theft of/from vehicle, Theft from person	16,146	15,200	-5.9%
Improve satisfaction among victims (focus on DA)	% Victims Satisfied (internal surveys)	70.4%	71.2%	+0.8%
	% DA Victims Satisfied (internal surveys)	84.9%	83.4%	-1.5%
Tackle Cyber Crime	Recorded Online/Cyber-enabled crimes	6,117	5,619	-8.1%

\* 12 months to end of March 2022 and 2023 as June's data isn't yet available



## Key Headlines

- **Serious Violence:** There were no confirmed discharges of lethal barrelled firearms this quarter. In recoveries of note, two shotguns were recovered from a vehicle in Carnforth, having been stolen from a trout fishery in Cumbria. Two homemade firearms were recovered in Blackpool during a house search following a neighbour dispute. There is a slight decrease in admissions for knife/sharp object assault injuries, which still remain below the 2020 level.
- **Homicide:** There have been 5 reported homicides during the quarter with 3 of these having been reported in June. Two were reported in each of West and South BCUs and one in East. In the majority of offences, the victim has been beaten/punched causing death. In the most recent incident, the victim (15 years old) was stabbed. In 4 of the offences, offenders have been charged and RIC to court. For the remaining offence, the offender is on police bail. Two of the offences can be attributed to drug supply/debt and one offence to domestic abuse. The remainder were random acts of violence.
- **Drugs Offences:** National data shows a 2% increase in Police Recorded Drugs Offences in Lancashire, when the year to April 2023 is compared against a pre-pandemic baseline. Nationally, there has been no change.
- **Neighbourhood Crime:** National data (to end of March 2023) shows Lancashire's change vs. the pre-pandemic baseline.
- **Victim Satisfaction:** Levels for DA victims and Overall victims show small variations, circa 83% and 71% respectively.

## National CJS Delivery Data

Data was updated in August 2023 to include Quarter 1 of 2023 (now representing data from April 2022 to March 2023).

### Key Headlines

#### All Crime

- The latest national data suggests **a further reduction in the timeliness of investigations for victims of crime**. Lancashire maintains to track below the national average, (44 days latest national figure, 26 days in Lancashire). Timeliness from Police referral to CPS charge for the North-West CPS area in April 2022 to March 2023 was 41 days, against a national average of 45 days. HMCTS data indicates that time from arrival at Crown Court to case completion has increased to 243 days, the national average standing at 248 days.
- The **percentage of positive outcomes for victim-based crime has increased slightly** to 10% and now exceeds the National average of 8%.

Crime recorded to police decision

**Average days taken for police to charge an offender in victim-based cases**

**26 days**

Down 7 days from previous year

April 2022 to March 2023

Crime recorded to police decision

**Victim-based offences where an offender is issued with a successful outcome (%)**

**10%**

Up 1 percentage point from previous year

April 2022 to March 2023

Crime recorded to police decision

**Investigations closed because the victim does not support police action (%)**

**35%**

Down 1 percentage point from previous year

April 2022 to March 2023

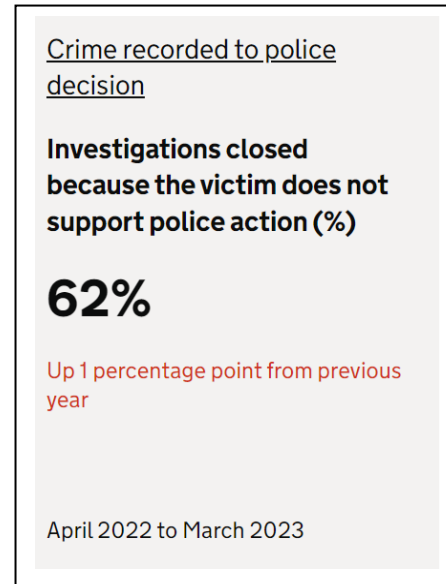
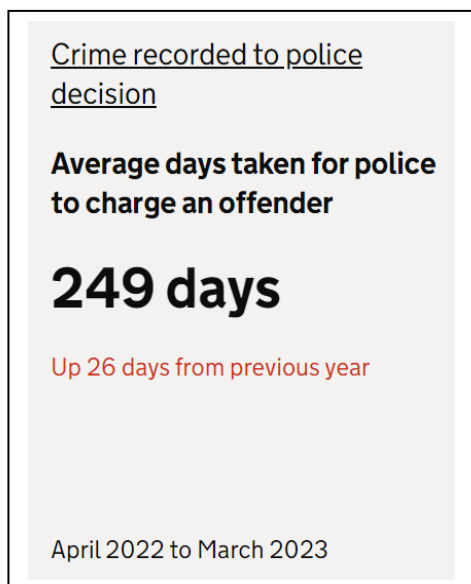
Rolling 12 month comparisons for Lancashire– All Crime

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

Adult Rape

- Lancashire is **ahead of the National average in relation to investigative timeliness, in spite of an increase of 26 days on the previous year. It is equal in terms of positive outcome proportions** for adult victims of rape at 5%. The North-West CPS area is still ahead of the national position on time taken to authorise charge after police referral (119 days, National 142 days). Lancashire HMCTS data indicates that the time from a case arriving at Crown Court to completion has decreased to 446 days, the national average however is 371 days.
- The latest data shows a further increase in the number of suspects referred to CPS for early advice or a charging decision in Lancashire and the Constabulary is tracking ahead of 2016 levels, which are being used Nationally as a target.
- Lancashire remains at the national average for investigations closed because the victim does not support police action at 62%.
- Lancashire recorded a 3% decrease in the number of cases which resulted in either a completed trial or guilty plea (now at 91%), the National average being (86%) which has also decreased by 1%.

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Rolling 12 month comparisons for Lancashire– Adult Rape

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

## Recorded Crime and Outcome Levels

### Year-to-Date comparison – All Crime

<b>1<sup>st</sup> April – 30th June</b>	<b>All crime total</b>	<b>Percentage change vs. previous year</b>
<b>2019</b>	37,812	-
<b>2020</b>	28,213	-25%
<b>2021</b>	34,451	+22%
<b>2022</b>	35,749	+4%
<b>2023</b>	32,946	-9%

- Overall, crime levels for April to June 2023 to date show a reduction on those from 2022, and still show a reduction against the pre-pandemic baseline.

### Outcomes – Priority Crimes

- The latest available national data (June 2022 to May 2023) – see below) shows the Constabulary continues to achieve greater proportions of positive outcomes than the North-West Regional and National averages across all priority crime types. We are also demonstrating higher proportions of positive outcomes on all but one category compared against the MSGs.

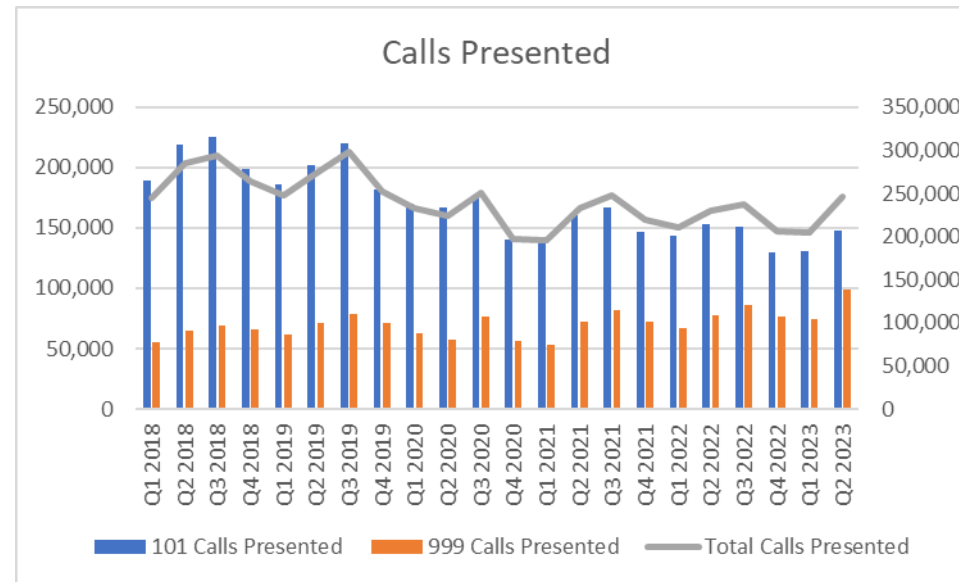
Crime Type	Lancashire
All Crime	13.6%
Burglary (All)	8.5%
Other sexual offences	12.9%
Rape	8.0%
Robbery of Personal Property	14.2%

## Police and Crime Plan Priorities

### Efficient and Effective policing

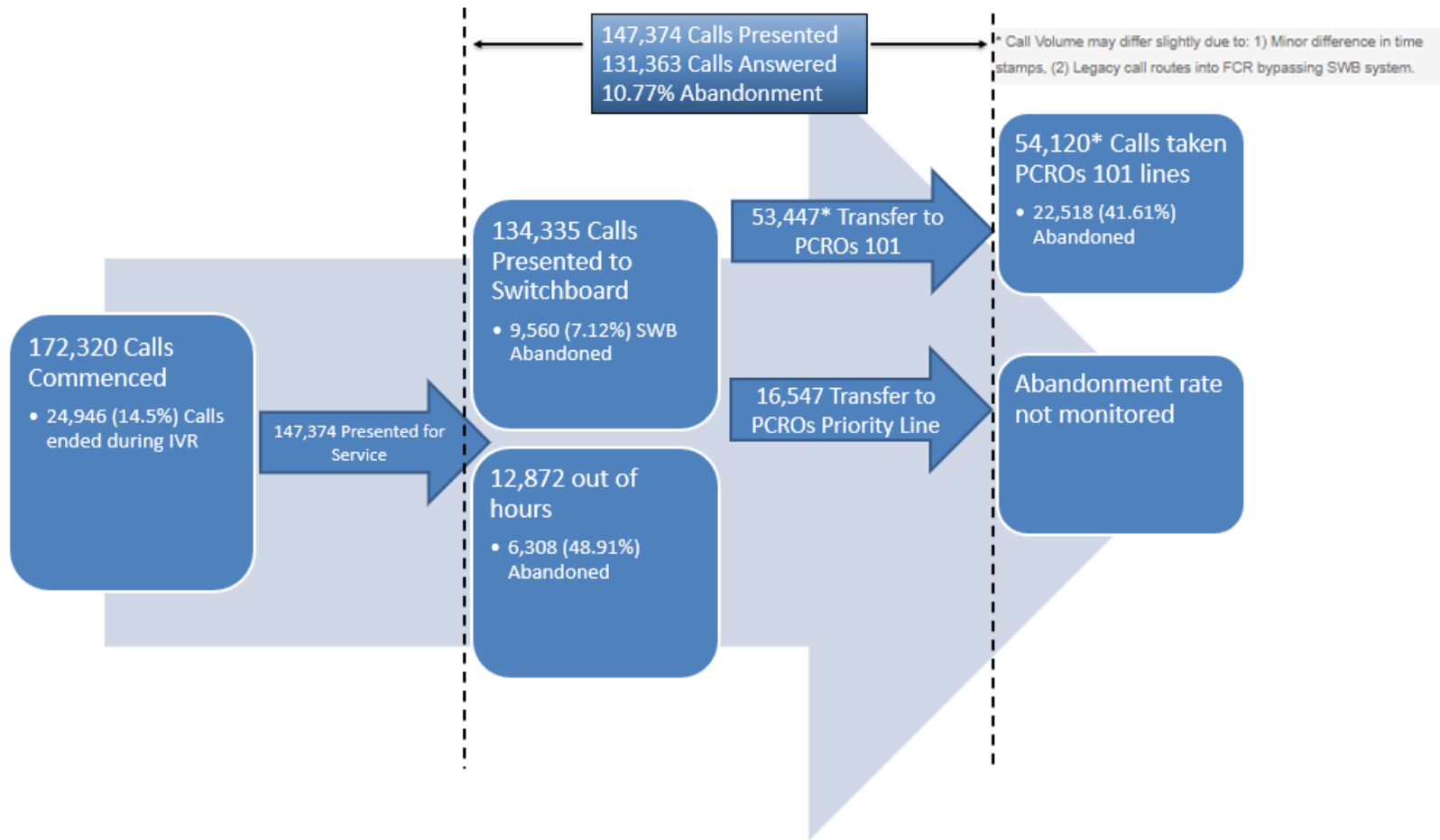
#### Key Headlines

- Call demand has risen in this quarter particularly 999 calls, this trend has been replicated nationally.
- This volume, however, remains lower than the equivalent period 2019.



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

Source: FCR Live Dashboard



101 Call Flow Performance – April - June, 2023  
Source: FCR Live dashboard, Power BI

- **101 abandonment rates:** The switchboard abandonment rate was 7.12% between April and June, an increase from 4.74% last quarter. The combined abandonment rate, which includes all hours (during switchboard operation and overnight, when Call Operators take 101 calls instead) was 10.77%, a slight increase from 10.03% in the previous quarter.
- The **101 Call Back Assist project** was successfully launched on the 27<sup>th</sup> June. Current delivery figures are presented below:

#### PCROs

Callbacks Delivered	373	96% of callbacks were delivered		
Average Queue Time	36mins			

#### FCMU (Force Crime Management Unit)

Callbacks Delivered	133	99% of callbacks were delivered		
Average Queue time	15mins			

- Recruitment into the part time rotas is underway and a part time PCRO intake have completed their training and are now answering live calls. Further recruitment is on-going to fill all the gaps on the rotas with a training course due to commence in August and November. The implementation of the logistics team has now been finalised and will be responsible for duty planning, recruitment, and ongoing quality improvement. These changes are expected to positively impact abandonment rates through improved staff coverage across all hours of the day.
- 999 Service levels for this quarter have been challenging given the increase in volume. Service levels for April at 91.6%, May 88.1% and June 84.7%, improvements on last year comparison at 79%, 75.8% and 66% retrospectively.



## Getting Tough on Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

### Key Headlines

- **ASB incident volumes continue to track below the previous financial year** (see below). It is worth noting that as well as a significant decrease on 2021/22 the figure also shows a slight decrease compared against 2019. Locations of concern have been in and around fast-food restaurants and supermarkets with moto and youth nuisance evident.

<b>1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>ASB Incident total</b>	<b>Percentage change vs. previous year</b>
<b>2019</b>	14,678	-
<b>2020</b>	30,706	+109%
<b>2021</b>	21,644	-30%
<b>2022</b>	15,387	-30%
<b>2023</b>	14,418	-6%

ASB Incidents Recorded – Lancashire, 2018/19 to present, for equivalent time period.

*Source: Responding Dashboard*

- ASB Awareness Week 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> July – the Constabulary was represented at the ASB Awareness week launch event hosted by Resolve in Parliament on 3<sup>rd</sup> July
- ASB awareness week produced a great deal of activity across all BCUs including extensive engagement activity across the county. Additionally £75k worth of stolen roofing was recovered in Carnforth, three arrests made in a joint operation with Trading Standards and Immigration in Blackpool and an exclusion Closure order in Burnley.
- Operation Centurion was launched on 3<sup>rd</sup> July with an extensive internal and external comms campaign. Operation Centurion is the new name that brings together all the ASB work taking place across the Force. Lancashire Constabulary is one of 10 forces nationally to be awarded £2 million funding by the Home Office for high visibility hotspot policing. There will be ASB hotspot areas in each of our 14 districts which will benefit from this funding. 6 of these areas launched the operation on 3<sup>rd</sup> July. 8 more areas will launch in October this year.
- The ASB, Prevention and Problem Solving Command now has divisional officers working in the BCUs supporting the Operation Centurion Operations and supporting local staff with POP and civil enforcement. The number of civil orders which are secured in relation the ASB is expected to rise significantly.

- The Youth referrals scheme is being reviewed and relaunched force-wide in September with a view to identifying children/youths at an earlier age when they are becoming involved in ASB so that diversionary support/ enforcement can be put in place by all agencies.

**Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime**

**PURSuing OFFENDERS: REDUCING THEIR CAPABILITY & FINANCIAL GAIN**



**287** arrests  
**83** charges



**10** people convicted  
**43** years imprisonment



13 orders obtained (10 Drugs/1 Money Laundering/2 Non NCS)  
7 Orders enforced (5 Drugs/2 Non NCS)



**36** cash seizures (£256,843)

**6** Major  
**50** Moderate  
**179** Minor  
**3** None  
Overall Disruption  
**238**



**4** Firearms recovered  
**2** rounds of ammunition



**228.51** kg  
Class A drugs seized  
and **7.68** kg  
Class B seized & **1941** Plants



**PREVENTING & PROTECTING SERIOUS ORGANISED CRIME**

multi-  
**27** agency  
meetings  
held

Worked in **Partnership** with different agencies to prevent & protect against serious & organised crime



**Prevent Initiatives**  
SOC Diversion (MASP)  
ROC & Clear Hold Build  
(Fleetwood)

**20**  
Adults Safeguarded  
**5**  
Children Safeguarded

## Key Headlines

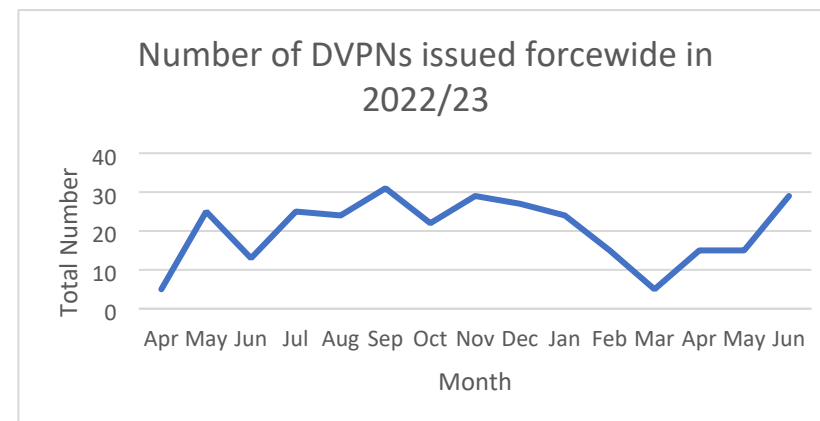
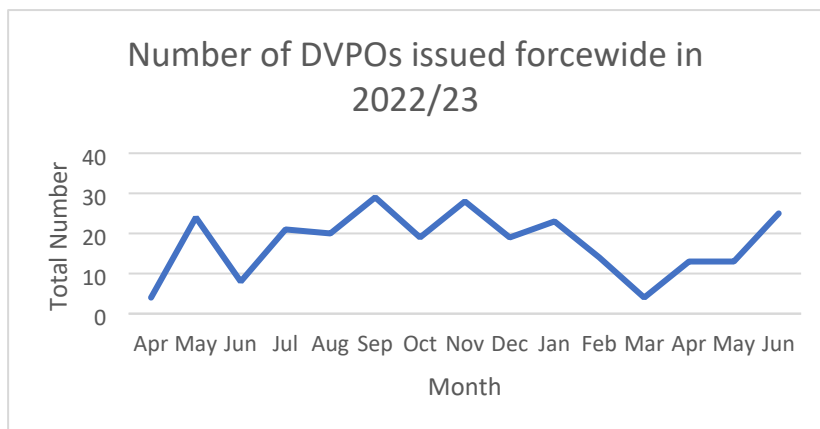
- **Operation Warrior (in support of national Operation Mille)** - Warrants executed at 24 premises where cannabis farms were identified. This resulted in 16 arrests and 6 detentions of foreign nationals by UK Immigration, cannabis plants seized with a street value of almost £1.5m, cannabis bush seized with street value of approximately £45k, and £70,000 in cash seized.
- **Operation Grassmount** – investigation in conjunction with West Yorkshire Police which resulted in the arrest of two persons in Blackburn, the recovery of Class A drugs worth more than £17m, and the seizure of £10k cash.
- **Clear, Hold, Build** - CHB provides a framework, based on a three-phase operating model, which has been designed to simultaneously tackle the threats from OCGs, local vulnerabilities exploited by them and the impact of individual and place-based harm they cause. Fleetwood has now been agreed as a CHB site. The newly appointed Chief Executive has been briefed is fully supportive of the CHB project. The partners launch date is to be confirmed in September.

## Tackling Domestic Abuse (DA) and Sexual Violence

1 <sup>st</sup> April – 30th June	DA Crime total	Percentage change vs. previous year
2019	5,086	-
2020	5,251	+3%
2021	6,484	+23%
2022	6,047	-7%
2023	5,335	-12%

### Key Headlines

- DA call volumes have continued to fall compared with the same quarter in the previous year.
- The proportion of **DA victims satisfied with the police service they received fell very slightly** – 83% for the 12 months to the end of June 2023.
- Recorded Rape and Other Sexual Offences in between April and June 2023 showed a 5% decrease compared with the same period in 2022.
- The inaugural VAWG scrutiny panel will take place on 19th July and this is comprised of a number of volunteers from the community, some with professional experience, some with academic experience and some who are retired and wanting to assist in keeping women safe within their communities. Work is ongoing through the Diversity, Equality and Inclusion team to do some proactive targeted recruitment in order to improve representation within the panel.
- The force is expected to return its action plan to the National Task Force for scrutiny by the 31<sup>st</sup> July. This will be completed by the required deadline.



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	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
DVPO	5	25	13	25	24	31	22	29	27	24	15	5	15	15	29
DVPO	4	24	8	21	20	29	19	28	19	23	14	4	13	13	25

- **Increases in the use of protective and preventative orders have resumed (see above). This may be linked to the new paperwork streamlining the process.** (see above).
- We have been selected as one of the seven forces to be inspected by HMICFRS on investigation, recording and actioning of stalking offences. This activity relates to a super-complaint submitted by the Suzy Lamplugh trust. Inspection activity is scheduled to run from Monday 31 July until Friday 11 August.
- A number of workstreams are being driven via the DA/Stalking Action Tracker including;

- Process for **SPOs** have now changed which should drive the use of SPOs. This process now includes utilising the civil orders team for processing the applications. The identification and eligibility still sits with BCU stalking SPOCs and Legal.
- New **GHT** for Stalking have been implemented on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and are mandatory. This supports our Officers to maximise evidential opportunities and take decisive action to pursue perpetrators and protect victims.
- The **S-Dash** (the Stalking Risk Assessment) for non-domestic abuse related stalking incidents will also become mandatory. It will go live with the next Pronto update and work is ongoing to finalise a go live date for this. We will provide further information on this in due course. This ensures we understand the risk to victims of stalking and that all stalking incidents have risk assessments, allowing the correct support and referral pathways to be put into place for victims of stalking along with a clear pattern of behaviour to be recorded on CONNECT.
- 
- **Stalking week of action** - It is important we are recognising crimes where the impact is significant on victims, and can be life changing for some- stalking is one of them. During the week commencing 17th July, a week of activity is taking place across the force. This will incorporate training delivered online including victim experience, crime recording, investigation and digital media, a CPS input and safeguarding/prevention.

## Cracking Down on Burglary and Robbery

### Key Headlines

- All offence categories with the exception of Personal Robbery have decreased compared with the same period in the previous financial year. All offence categories including Personal Robbery remain at a lower volume than the same period in 2019 – see table below.

<b>1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Burglary Business and Community Crime total</b>	<b>Percentage change vs. previous year</b>
<b>2019</b>	1,012	-
<b>2020</b>	658	-35%
<b>2021</b>	541	-18%
<b>2022</b>	804	+49%
<b>2023</b>	644	-20%
<b>1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Burglary Residential Crime total</b>	<b>Percentage change vs. previous year</b>
<b>2019</b>	1,956	-
<b>2020</b>	1,401	-28%
<b>2021</b>	1,132	-19%
<b>2022</b>	1,272	-12%
<b>2023</b>	836	-34%
<b>1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Robbery Personal Crime Total</b>	<b>Percentage change vs. previous year</b>
<b>2019</b>	316	-
<b>2020</b>	190	-40%
<b>2021</b>	228	+20%
<b>2022</b>	244	+7%
<b>2023</b>	258	+6%



1 <sup>st</sup> April – 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Robbery Business Crime total	Percentage change vs. previous year
2019	24	-
2020	10	-58%
2021	13	+30%
2022	22	+69%
2023	21	-5%

### Residential Burglary

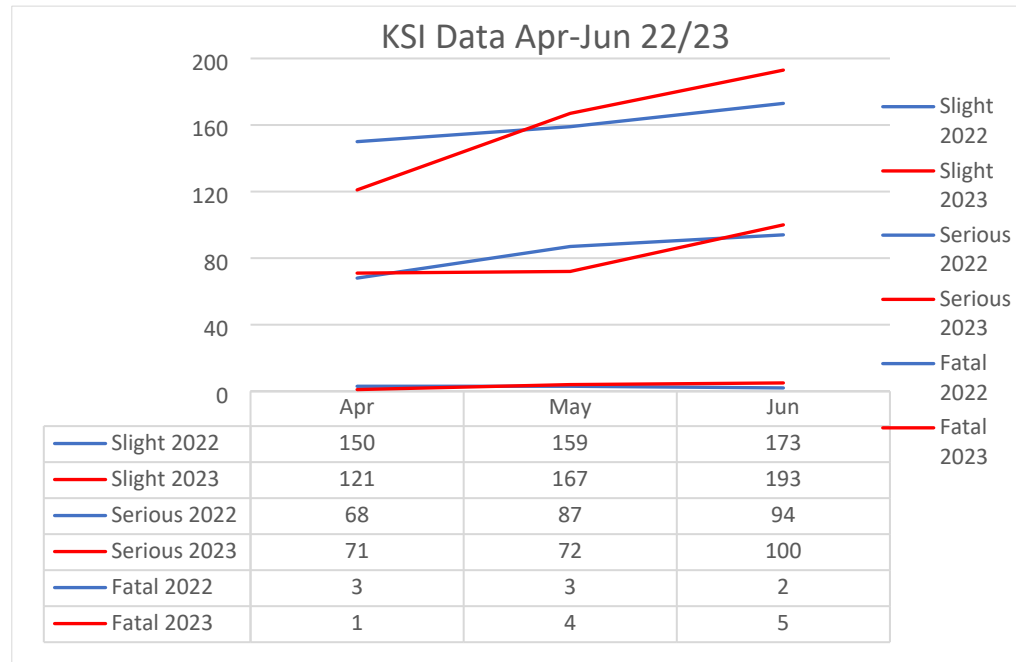
- Consistent improvement in outcomes at 10.25% (April-June 2023). This is compared to 5.5% for the same period last year. (Taking into account changes in HOCR for Residential Burglary brought in April 2023, the same period last year saw in the region of 8% outcomes).
- The new Investigations TOM model will see a consistent approach to resourcing across each of the 3 BCU's that will enhance investigative capability leading to improved outcomes.
- Lancashire is engaged with the College of Policing in developing guidance on the response to, and investigation of residential burglary offences with a national meeting in mid-July to develop a Burglary Doctrine of national best practice.
- Forensic Footwear development - continued development of a digital solution to the taking of footwear impressions from suspected offenders to enable swifter comparison of footwear impressions taken from crime scenes to enable. This will be trialled in one division before reviewing for force wide roll out.

### Personal Robbery

- Development of the Crime Allocation Policy has provided a consistent approach to robbery investigation involving detective supervisory oversight identifying opportunities to improve outcomes.
- Outcomes for robbery have significantly improved with April-June 2023 seeing 12.4% outcome rate compared to 9.8% in the same period last year.

## Targeting Dangerous Drivers

### Key Headlines



*Source: Internal data and Collision Reporting and Sharing System- CRaSH*

- KSI data shows an overall 9% decrease in RTCs from Jan-Jun 2023 in comparison to the same period in 2022.
- There have been notable increases in enforcement, particularly against ASB driving (leading to s59 seizures), with an increase of 52% from Apr-Jun 2023 compared to Apr-Jun 2022. Excess speed (30mph) enforcement has also seen an increase of 70%, and arrests for impaired driving continue to show increases as officers maintain their focus on Fatal 5 offences. Notably, the use of recently issued

essential tools such as Tintman light meters continues to rise – quarterly data shows an increase of 82% between Jan-Mar 2023 and Apr-Jun 2023.

- TORs issued by Specialist Operations officers have increased by 111%.

	Mobile Phone	Excess speed (m/way)	Excess speed (30mph)	Seatbelt	Tyres <1.6mm	Insufficient transmission of light	s59 - Ops data only	Impaired arrests - Ops only
■ Apr-Jun 22	187	137	126	231	25	37	296	308
■ Apr-Jun 23	165	124	215	213	18	175	450	357

■ Apr-Jun 22 ■ Apr-Jun 23

- **Operation Virage** continues to provide excellent results in tackling impaired drivers. Between Apr-Jun 2023 there have been 100 positive outcomes, including 58 arrests, 21 vehicles seized and 21 TORs issued. At the beginning of July 2023, there were 338 Virage targets of which 67 graded Red, 94 Amber and 177 Green.
- **Operation Sawfish** (engagement and enforcement) and **BikeSafe** (rider improvement scheme) continue to run throughout Summer 2023 with officers patrolling key hotspot locations and bike meet areas in order to reduce motorcycle casualties, especially those killed or seriously injured. Rider error continues to be significant contributory factor in this collision type.
- **Op Snap** – Since October 2021, there have been 4,693 digital submissions of moving traffic offences from the public and 58% of these have been actionable. In that time 2,446 NIP/172 letters have been sent out to the last known keepers. So far 1,713 have been completed of which 480 (28%) booked and attended a driver retraining course, 589 (34%) complied with a conditional offer of fixed penalty, 454 (27%) were issued with proceedings in the Magistrates’ Court and 190 (11%) being cancelled for a variety of reasons which includes insufficient evidence, driver identity, cloned plates, etc. The Safer Roads Unit currently employs 4 part-time OpSnap Investigation Officers who assess submissions; now they are Police Staff we are providing additional CPD and training to extend the scope of the duties, including upgrading files for court matters and making further enquiries where motorists have failed to respond to the requirement to provide driver details.
- **Officer Issued Notices** – 3,812 for the second quarter of 2023 compared to 3,339 to the same time in 2022 (+14%). This is largely a result of the TPO training from late 2022 which means more officers able to recognise a wider range of traffic offences.

## POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Meeting to be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023

### 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](mailto: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 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

#### 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 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023. These are set out in the table below.

Decision Reference	Decision Title	PCC Priority	Date of Decision
2023/12	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhood Fund Community Fund	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour  Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	04/07/2023
2023/13	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund – Fighting Crime Grant	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour  Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	04/07/2023
2023/15	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund – Community Fund	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour  Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	08/08/2023
2023/16	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund – Police Innovation Fund	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour  Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	08/08/2023
2023/17	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund – Community Fund	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour  Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	22/08/2023
2023/18	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund – Police Innovation Fund	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour  Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	22/08/2023
2023/20	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023/24	Governance	31/08/2023

2023/21	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund – Fighting Crime Grant	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour  Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	
2023/22	Memorandum of Understanding – HMPPS Data Sharing	Governance	31/08/2023
	Delegated Decisions	Governance	

### 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 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023. 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.

## TASK AND FINISH GROUP WORK PROGRAMME 2023-24

<p><b>VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS – Chair Cllr Mark Townsend</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> October Main Panel Meeting – agree two new Members to join to continue the work of the group.</li> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> December Main Panel Meeting – update on work to date.</li> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024- Submit final report with recommendations.</li> </ul>
<p><b>RURAL CRIME – Chair Miranda Carruthers-Watt</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> October Main Panel Meeting – update on work to date.</li> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> December Main Panel Meeting –update on work to date.</li> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024- Submit final report with recommendations.</li> </ul>
<p><b>101 SERVICE – Chair TBC</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Task and Finish Group to be established during 2023/24 to further scrutinise the 101 Service, following up previous work undertaken by the last Group chaired by Councillor Roger Berry.</li> </ul>

Future potential item – Retail Crime – more likely to be in 2024-25.

## **LANCASHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

Meeting to be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023

### **Payment of allowances to Independent Co-opted Members**

Contact for further information: Phil Llewellyn (01254) 585369, HR, Legal and Governance Services, [phil.llewellyn@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:phil.llewellyn@blackburn.gov.uk)

### **Executive Summary**

This report contains a recommendation that allowances be paid to Independent Co-opted Members of the Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire.

### **Recommendation**

1. The Panel is asked to agree the payment of allowances to Independent Co-opted Members at the rate of £400 per Co-opted Member after the final main Panel meeting each year, this payment being a single allowance as referred to in the report, subject to regular attendance and covering all expenses; and
2. That the level of all allowances payable be reviewed at the AGM meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024.

### **Background and Advice**

At the AGM in July 2021, the Panel agreed that the rates for the Payment of Allowances (also covering expenses) set out in the report submitted, as first discussed in July 2019 be confirmed, being single annual payments (based on 4 ordinary meetings a year and subject to regular attendance at all meetings), namely:

**Chair of the Panel £600**

**Vice Chair of the Panel £480**

**Task & Finish Group Lead £400**

**Task and Finish Group Members £300**

**To be paid after the last meeting in the cycle each year (one allowance only per qualifying Member).**

At the AGM Meeting in July, it was noted that there were now two Independent Co-opted Members on the Panel, and that it was an appropriate time to consider the payment of allowances to Co-opted Independent Members, and the Panel agreed that a report be prepared with recommendations for submission to today's meeting.

Having considered the existing level of allowances referred to above, and also similar payments made to Independent Co-opted Members of Blackburn with



Darwen's Standards Committee (which were agreed to be £400 per municipal year following recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel earlier this year), it is considered appropriate that a payment be made of £400 per Independent Co-opted Member on an annual basis, after the last main Panel meeting each year. This would be a single allowance, meaning if more than one role was undertaken (ie. Task and Finish Group Chair or member) only one payment of £400 would be made. The payment would also be subject to regular attendance at meetings.

If agreed, the payment would recognise the preparation undertaken ahead of meetings, attendance at main Panel meetings, and any participation in Task and Finish Groups. The payment would also ensure that Independent Co-opted Members get some recompense for expenses.

For clarity, as per the existing arrangements in place, Councillors can claim expenses relating to attendance at Panel meetings from their own local authorities, via Members Allowances, and the local authority can then re-claim these costs back from the Host Authority as appropriate, unless the Panel Member is already receiving a payment as Chair of the Panel, Vice Chair of the Panel, or a Task and Finish Group Chair or member, in which case those payments also cover any other expenses arising.

It is also suggested that the level of payments made to Panel Members for all the roles identified in this report be reviewed at the AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024, as it will have then been three years since the original figures were agreed.

### **Consultations**

N/A

### **Implications:**

N/A

### **Legal Implications**

N/A

### **Financial Implications**

The Grant Agreement includes a maximum of £53,300 for costs of administering Panels and up to £920 for expenses per member to a maximum of £18,400 (maximum 20 Panel members). This has confirmed again by the Home Office for 2023/24.

### **Risk management**

N/A

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

Grant documentation

Contact/Directorate/Tel

Phil Llewellyn, HR, Legal &  
Corporate Services  
(01254) 585369

Reasons for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate – N/A