

# Public Document Pack

## Police & Crime Panel for Lancashire

Monday, 4th December, 2023

4.00 pm

Meeting Room A

[Link to Webcast](#)

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### AGENDA

1. **Welcome and Apologies**
2. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd October 2023**  
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3. **Declarations of Interest**
4. **Panel Membership Update**  
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5. **Public Questions**
6. **Performance Update**  
**PCC update December 2023** 11 - 37  
**Performance Schedule**
7. **PCC Decisions**  
**Decision Report** 38 - 41
8. **Task and Finish Groups - Verbal Update from the Chairs**
9. **PCP Annual Conference 2023**  
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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 Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 (Precept Only) at 4pm at Blackburn Town Hall.

Date Published: 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

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

### **Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023**

#### **Present:**

##### **Chair**

Councillor Jackie Oakes, Rossendale Borough Council

##### **Committee Members**

Councillor Roger Berry, Wyre Borough Council  
Councillor Christopher Dixon, Fylde Borough Council  
Councillor Alan Cullens, Lancashire Country Council  
Councillor Peter Edwards, Hyndburn Borough Council  
Councillor Quesir Mahmood, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council  
Councillor Mark Townsend, Burnley Borough Council  
Councillor Alistair Bradley, Chorley Borough Council  
Councillor Pat Varty, Preston City Council  
Councillor Gareth Dowling, West Lancs Borough Council  
Councillor Peter Le-Marinel, Wyre Borough Council  
Richard Glover, Co-Opted Independent Member

#### **Also in attendance**

- Chris Rowley, Chief Constable
- Angela Harrison, Office of the PCC
- Steve Freeman, Office of the PCC
- Ian Dickinson, Office of the PCC
- Asad Laher, Secretary
- Phil Llewellyn, Democratic and Scrutiny Lead

### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was noted that due to technical issues, the meeting could not be webcast.

Apologies were received from Councillors Green, Hunter, Alcock, Flannery, Armistead, Whipp, Lee, Maddocks, the PCC, Andrew Snowden, and Independent Co-opted Member Miranda Carruthers Watt.

### **2. Minutes**

**RESOLVED** – The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

Under Matters Arising, it was noted that the PCC had circulated a number of documents ahead of the meeting relating to Domestic Homicide Funding, and that the matter was still under discussion and alternative funding was being pursued.

The Secretary, Asad Laher, updated the meeting on the additional three Members of the Panel who had been appointed to help achieve political balance, and these were Councillors Matthew Lee (Fylde), Sally Maddocks (Lancaster) and Peter Le-Marinel (Wyre).

### **3. Declarations of Interest**

Miranda Carruthers-Watt and Richard Glover had declared an interest in Agenda Item 9 – Allowances Co-opted Members. Miranda Carruthers-Watt was not present, having given apologies, and Richard Glover took no part in discussions or voting on that item.

### **4. Public Questions**

No public questions had been received.

### **5. Chief Constable Verbal Update**

The Chief Constable (CC) presented his annual update to the Panel. Key areas highlighted included:

- Implementation of a New Operating Model
- A reduction in recorded crime
- An increase in positive outcomes
- Operation Defender – Residential Burglary work
- Operation Warrior – Targeting Organised Crime Groups
- Operation Centurion – Targeting ASB in a number of hotspot areas.

The CC also emphasised the focus on 'Right Care, Right Person' to keep officers on the streets and work with Mental Health practitioners in this regard.

After the Presentation, the CC received a number of questions from the Panel.

These ranged in topics, including: Operation Centurion – spreading the message to residents, following up on properties that have a history of drug use, the criteria for how areas were chosen, as residents felt that a particular area was a 'no go' area and use of overtime rather than funding of new officers. Panel Members also referred to the success of Operation Vertebrae in targeting a number of motoring offences including drink and drug driving, mobile phone use and vehicle safety. Panel Members also raised issues with bikes and e-scooters as drug transport, an issue relating to a victim of crime and lack of support, a question about back-office changes to support the officers who were receiving overtime to target crime in areas, the ongoing Court backlog, issues relating to Children's Homes, particularly with children from other areas and Business Crime issues.

In response, the CC advised in terms of spreading the message about the visibility of the Police, a system was being developed to show where officers had been on patrol in the last 24 hours. As regards properties with a history of drug use, the PCC advised that intelligence was key, and Police had the information, they could revisit properties. The criteria for how areas were targeted for ASB would be circulated to the Panel, with the Commissioner advising that he was very concerned to learn of a

'no go area' and this would be discussed with the relevant Commander. In terms of overtime for officers under Officer Centurion, the CC advised that the funding was for two years, so permanent officers could not be recruited. The CC advised that it was very hard to police bikes and e-scooters and that once again, intelligence was very important and usually properties were targeted. In relation to the victim of crime referred to, the CC agreed to look into this. The CC advised that back-office support had not increased to support Operation Centurion, instead, bureaucracy was being reduced and efficiencies being focussed on. The CC agreed that the Court backlog was a significant issue and the time cases took to come to court had a major impact on the victims. In terms of issues relating to Children's Homes, there were some issues with people going missing/trying to return to their original area, but that younger children were in the minority of such cases. In terms of Business Crime, the Police worked with takeaways and supermarkets to respond to violent individuals, whilst at the same time acknowledging that businesses still needed to make a profit, so high value items were often placed near entrances and exits of shops etc.

**RESOLVED:** That the CC be thanked for the update, and that the presentation slides be shared with the Panel.

## **6. Performance Update**

The Panel received an update on progress in developing the current Police and Crime Plan for Lancashire 2021-2025.

Angela Harrison advised that a lot of the update had been covered in the CC's presentation, and agreed to circulate the criteria for selection of hot spot areas to Councillor Mark Townsend, and additionally, in relation to a query from the Chair about use of POCA funding for a community group who had been asked to match fund the amount, Angela also would be in touch with the Chair about this.

Angela Harrison also agreed to get details to Councillor Townsend about the make up of a Panel discussing Violence against Women and Girls that took place on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

Finally, the CC outlined the involvement of the force in the recent 'Super Complaint' with Lancashire one of several forces selected and reviewed on a number of different crimes, with the force performing well in some areas and needing to improve in some others.

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

## **7. PCC Decisions**

A report was submitted highlighting decisions made by the PCC and Chief Executive, or authorised officer, under delegated authority, in the period since the last meeting of the Panel on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

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

## **8. Task and Finish Groups – Verbal Updates from the Chairs and Work Programme 2023-24**

The Panel received an update on the progress of the Task and Finish Groups and also received the relating Work Programme for 2023-24.

Councillor Mark Townsend reported on the ongoing work of the Violence against Women and Girls Task and Finish Group, advising that more Panel Members were required and that it was intended that the refreshed group would like to speak to a Victim's Group again, as well as the PCC early in the New Year, with submission of the final report to the March meeting of the Panel.

In the absence of Miranda Carruthers -Watt and Councillor Jan Alcock, who had given apologies, Phil Llewellyn reported that the Rural Crime Group was considering relevant data and also information provided by the PCC's Office, and that the group required another member, and also intended to report back to the March meeting.

In relation to the 101 Service group, it was agreed that the re-established of the group would be discussed at the December meeting.

#### **RESOLVED –**

1. That the updates and Work Programme for the Task and Finish Groups as submitted be agreed;
2. That the following members of the Panel agreed to join Task and Finish Groups as follows:

**Violence against Women and Girls** – Peter Le-Marinel and Richard Glover.  
**Rural Crime** – Richard Glover.

#### **9. Allowances – Co-opted Independent Members**

The Panel received a report containing recommendations that allowances be paid to Independent Co-opted Members of the Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire.

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 for the October 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 was 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 got some recompense for expenses.

For clarity, as per the existing arrangements in place, Councillors could claim expenses relating to attendance at Panel meetings from their own local authorities, via Members Allowances, and the local authority could then re-claim these costs back from the Host Authority as appropriate, unless the Panel Member was 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 covered any other expenses arising.

It was 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 would have then been three years since the original figures were agreed.

#### **RESOLVED –**

1. The Panel 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.

#### **10. Complaints Update**

The Secretary advised that no complaints had been received since the last meeting.

#### **11. Urgent Business**

There are no items of urgent business.

#### **12. Date of Next Meeting**

The Panel noted that the next meeting would be held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 4pm at Blackburn Town Hall, with a briefing session on Finance ahead of the meeting to be delivered by Steve Freeman at 3pm.

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

Meeting to be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023

### **Membership Update 2023/24**

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

#### **Executive Summary**

To provide an update on the membership of the Police and Crime Panel for 2023/24, following the Panel's approval at the AGM on 18<sup>th</sup> July of the Membership Review.

#### **Recommendation**

Panel is asked to note the update to the Membership following recent changes in political compositions mainly at Blackburn with Darwen, 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. 'Other' includes the two minority political groups recently formed at Blackburn with Darwen (8 members) and Burnley (11 members).

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 18 July, the overall political composition for the police force area was:



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

Total 100%

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 2023/24 membership for the Panel would remain 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).**

Since the AGM on 18 July there has been some political changes, mainly at Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and Burnley Borough Council. These changes together with some other minor changes, represent the following political composition of the police force area:

Lab	45.49%
Con	33.91%
Lib	6.15%
Ind	4.15%
Other	5.29%
Green	5.01%

Total 100.00%

This would represent the following composition for a politically balanced Panel of 18 elected member seats:

**Lab 8**  
**Con 6**  
**Lib Dem 1**  
**Ind 1**  
**Other 1**  
**Green 1**

In order to achieve a politically balanced Panel the local authorities who have nominated a representative from their Labour group and also have a 'Other' minority political group could be asked to consider changing their nominations. Alternatively, as there is also a requirement for the Panel membership to have skills, knowledge and experience necessary for it to discharge its functions effectively, the Panel could take the view to continue with its current membership until the end of 2023/24 to ensure continuity in its work programme.

## **Consultations**

All Local Authorities represented on the Panel are requested to nominate a member, and 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 18 July 2023 [Report to AGM.Membership 2023 24.pdf \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

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 2023

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 4 December 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. Two Accountability Boards, scrutinising the Chief Constable on the delivery of his Police and Crime Plan priorities, took place in October and November.

Items discussed included:

- Decreases of crime recorded of 7% and 8% respectively against previous year
- Seizures in cash hitting £900k over a five-month period, almost doubling from the same period a year prior

- Updating on the progress since the new Targeted Operating Model was launched and the impact this is having on different areas of the Constabulary.
  - Successes in disrupting organised crime gangs, through Op Warrior, with 28kg Class A and B drugs seized in a six-month period, and 3,599 cannabis plants taken.
5. The Commissioner continues to receive positive reports in relation Operation Centurion following its launch in July which focused on getting tough on anti-social behaviour (ASB).
  6. A further 8 hotspot areas were identified in October targeting areas within Darwen, St Annes, Morecambe, Clitheroe, Colne, Bacup, Leyland and Skelmersdale. This brings the total number of hotspot areas to 14. By taking the fight to anti-social behaviour, 578 people have now been arrested for criminal damage since the start of Operation Centurion with over 5,700 additional police hours in hotspot areas up to October.
  7. The Commissioner opened the Cyber Crime Protect Conference in Preston, which he helped fund through the Police Innovation Fund strand of his Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund.
  8. Hosted by Lancashire Police's Cyber Unit during Cyber Security Awareness Month, the event aimed to advise Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) on the importance of cyber security and protection.
  9. Attendees from local SMEs were able to network with other business owners and staff from organisations such as the North West Regional Crime Unit and National Crime Agency, whilst talks varied in subject from cyber support to ransomware.
  10. The Commissioner announced at the end of October, the three projects awarded money through the latest Safer Streets funding, provided to his Office by Government.

These were:

- A project delivering across the Pennine areas of Blackburn, Darwen, Accrington, Burnley and Rawtenstall will see £400k for the installation of new CCTV, and investment into greenspace and townlink radio.
- Blackpool will benefit from £311k for new lighting, CCTV and radio links, alongside work within schools on issues such as ASB, with Blackpool FC Community Trust delivering a project with young people.
- Lancaster and West Lancashire will also receive £288k for CCTV investment and early intervention programmes.

This Safer Streets fifth round of funding is the biggest single pot to date, awarded directly to Police and Crime Commissioners.

It builds on the previous rounds of Safer Streets Funding that has seen a total of £2.6m invested into 6 projects in Lancashire, this money will support further funding of schemes that deliver the key priorities in the Commissioner's Fight Crime Plan, deter crime, make areas feel safer and support enforcement.

11. The Commissioner's Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund, designed to give cash seized from criminals back to the communities of Lancashire, has passed through the £1m mark.

Since the last meeting a further £175k has been awarded to projects taking the fight to criminals:

#### **Community Fund:**

EAST:

*Accrington Christians Together – Accrington Street Angels – £8,250*

This is a 'Street Angels' project supporting vulnerable people in Accrington particularly in the night time economy, dealing with minor incidents, preventing escalation and offering support – to ensure no harm comes to vulnerable people.

*Burnley, Pendle, Rossendale Council for Voluntary Service – Health and Wellbeing for Children and Families – £10,000*

Project working with young people focussing on diversionary activity to reduce anti-social behaviour and reduce the risk of exploitation of vulnerable young people.

*Colne Youth Action Group – CYAG Holiday Club Extension – £10,000*

Offering more weeks and sessions meeting demand for the Youth Action Group sessions and additional resources, helping combat ASB concerns in Colne.

*Nature Warriors Nelson – New Centre Support – £9,850*

Diversionary activity and workshops working with young people focusing on martial arts sessions and sessions around confidence and public speaking and employability skills

*Bacup Family Centre – Community Youth Project – £10,000*

Supporting the further development of a child & youth hub 'the station' used by young people within Bacup, to tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour.

*Ribble Valley Community Safety Partnership – CCTV network – tackling ASB, rural crime and dangerous driving – £8,000*

CCTV covering arterial routes in rural areas to deter and detect crime in rural communities.

**SOUTH:**

*Preston and South Ribble Street Pastors – Preston Street Pastors – £10,000*

Support for uniformed volunteers engaging with vulnerable people, particularly in the night time economy, to keep them safe and reduce crime.

*Wigan Athletic Community Trust – Football in the Community – £9,600*

Football and other activity sessions within the Digmoor and central area of Skelmersdale for 8-16 year olds, acting as a diversionary activity and opportunity to signpost, in order to continue to reduce anti-social behavior.

**WEST:**

*Blackpool FC Community Trust – Tower Above – £10,000*

One-to-one mentoring programme working with young people deemed at risk of and/or involved in anti-social behaviour/crime.

*Kirkham Town Council – Playground and Ginnel CCTV – £10,000*

Installation of CCTV system to deter and detect any anti-social behaviour or criminal activity.

*Slyne with Hest Parish Council – Respect our Recreation Field – £4,440*

Installation of CCTV around the site to deter and detect any anti-social behaviour or criminal activity.

*The Boathouse Youth, Blackpool – £10,000*

Installation of CCTV to deter ASB in Blackpool and help identify any perpetrators.

**TOTAL – £110,140**

**Police Innovation Fund:**

Enforcement scene units – £50,000 – Investment into two refitting two special operations vehicles for use by the roads policing unit, growing operational capacity to target dangerous drivers and vehicles.

### **Fighting Crime Grants:**

Fylde Borough Council – £14,976 – support for additional council patrols that will support the Op Centurion Patrol Plan by enforcing civil powers to reduce anti-social behaviour.

*Total – £175k*

12. As members will be aware, the Commissioner has released the report from the College of Policing's independent review into the handling of the widely publicised missing from home investigation into Nicola Bulley. The Commissioner has asked the Chief Constable for a report in the new year setting out his implementation plan in relation to the report's recommendations.
13. A copy of the report can be viewed via the following link.  
  
[Commissioner publishes Independent Report into Nicola Bulley case - Lancashire Police Crime Commissioner \(lancashire-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/Commissioner-publishes-Independent-Report-into-Nicola-Bulley-case)
14. In October, the Commissioner, joined members of the local policing team on the beat in Preston City Centre, to see first-hand and discuss efforts to tackle anti-social behaviour and crimes such as shoplifting.
15. During the walkaround, the Commissioner heard about the difference the additional policing patrols were making, with 882 additional policing hours spent on the beat in Preston since July, as part of the £2million of additional funding the Commissioner secured from the Government.
16. Figures up to the end of September also highlighted that these additional patrols have already seen 16 arrests, 373 business visits and 180 incidents attended.
17. The Commissioner spoke to over 40 Police Cadets at the University Centre, Blackburn College.
18. The Blackburn Cadet Unit discussed some of the work they have been doing during their weekly sessions and what they were looking forward to in the months ahead.
19. They also heard from the Commissioner more about his role and had the opportunity to ask questions about his work as PCC, his Fighting Crime Plan and a range of other areas across policing and criminal justice.

20. In November the Commissioner visited Kirkham and discussed local policing issues with the local neighbourhood Sergeant and Mayor of Kirkham Town Council, Cllr Chris Hopkinson.
21. They discussed funding provided through his Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund to upgrade the Town Council's CCTV system, and the work of the policing team in the area to address local concerns.
22. The Commissioner has walked the beat with Members of Parliament in their constituencies, discussing with local policing teams the issues being raised with their local offices.
23. During walkarounds with Jake Berry MP and Paul Maynard MP, they talked about how additional officers recruited through the Police Uplift Programme were already making a difference to the policing service constituents were seeing out on their streets and local challenges.
24. The Commissioner joined students at both UCLan and Runshaw College, who are completing policing related qualifications, to discuss his plans for Lancashire Constabulary and the future of policing.
25. UCLan students were given the opportunity to ask the Commissioner a series of questions including if he would alter his Fighting Crime Plan priorities given the opportunity, and what are the biggest issues he faces in his role.
26. The Commissioner also joined pupils on Runshaw College's Policing Horizons programme to discuss their future ambitions in policing, whether that be as staff or an officer.

## **Recommendation**

27. 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 Crime and Policing Measures

Target	Measure	12 months to Sept 2022	12 months to Sept 2023	% Change vs Previous Year
Reduce Murder/Homicide	Recorded Homicides	21	18	-14%
Reduce Serious violence	Firearms Offences (includes all uses however excludes air weapons and bb guns)	69	63	-9%
	Discharges of Lethal Barrelled Firearms (handguns, shotguns and rifles - not air)	12	7	-42%
	Presentations to ED with knife/sharp object assault injuries	97*	92*	-5%
Reduce Neighbourhood Crime	Recorded Burglary, Robbery, Theft of/from vehicle, Theft from person	17,445	16,903	-3%
Improve satisfaction among victims (focus on DA)	% Victims Satisfied (internal surveys)	84.5%	84.8%	+0.3%
	% DA Victims Satisfied (internal surveys)	70.3%	73.4%	+3.1%
Tackle Cyber Crime	Recorded Online/Cyber-enabled crimes	6,246	5,190	-17%

\*Data 12 months to end of August 2022 and 2023 as September's data isn't yet available

### Key Headlines

- **Serious Violence:** There were no confirmed discharges of lethal barrelled firearms this quarter. There were five firearm seizures, with three firearms “found”, one surrendered anonymously and one recovered having been used in a suicide. There is a further slight decrease in admissions for knife/sharp object assault injuries, which still remain below the 2020 level.
- **Homicide:** During the quarter a total of seven homicides were recorded, six being in West BCU and one in South. This is an increase of three offences compared with the equivalent period in 2022. Most have been random acts of violence, but there have been two child homicides within the seven recorded.
- **Victim Satisfaction:** Levels for DA victims and Overall victims show small positive variations, circa 83% and 73% respectively (12 months to end of Sep 2023).

## National CJS Delivery Data

Data was updated in November 2023 to include Quarter 2 of 2023 (now representing data from July 2022 to July 2023).

### Key Headlines

#### All Crime

- The latest national data suggests a **small improvement in the timeliness of investigations for victims of crime, based on average days to charge in victim based cases**. Lancashire is tracking below the national average, although national updates are delayed on this specific area (36 days latest national figure, 23 days in Lancashire). Timeliness from Police referral to CPS charge for the North-West CPS area in 2022 was 29 days, against a national average of 44 days. HMCTS data indicates that time from arrival at Crown Court to case completion has increased to 250 days, against a national average of 252.

#### Crime recorded to police decision

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

**23 days**

Down 3 days from previous year

July 2022 to June 2023

#### Crime recorded to police decision

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

**11%**

Up 1 percentage point from previous year

July 2022 to June 2023

#### Crime recorded to police decision

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

**34%**

Down 1 percentage point from previous year

July 2022 to June 2023

Rolling 12 month comparisons for Lancashire– All Crime

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

- The **percentage of positive outcomes for victim-based crime has increased slightly** to 11% and still exceeds the National average of 8%.

### Adult Rape

- Lancashire is **ahead of the National average (309 days) in relation to investigative timeliness, remaining stable at 249 days. It has increased its positive outcome proportions** for adult victims of rape to 7%, against a national average of 5%. The North-West CPS area is still ahead of the national position on time taken to authorise charge after police referral at 103 days compared against 142 nationally. However Lancashire HMCTS data indicates that the time from a case arriving at Crown Court to completion has increased to 462 days against a national average of 369 which is a worry.

#### Crime recorded to police decision

**Average days taken for police to charge an offender**

**249 days**

No change from previous year

July 2022 to June 2023

#### Crime recorded to police decision

**Investigations which result in a charge  
(% of all investigations closed in the same time period)**

**7%**

Up 1 percentage point from previous year

July 2022 to June 2023

#### Crime recorded to police decision

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

**61%**

Down 2 percentage points from previous year

July 2022 to June 2023

Rolling 12 month comparisons for Lancashire– Adult Rape

Source: [Criminal Justice System Delivery Data Dashboard - GOV.UK](#)

- 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 is at the national average for investigations closed because the victim does not support police action at 61%. This represents a 1ppt decrease on the previous year.
- Lancashire recorded a higher proportion of cases which resulted in either a completed trial or guilty plea (89%), when compared with the the National average (87%). This represented a 2% increase on the previous year.

## Recorded Crime and Outcome Levels

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

1 <sup>st</sup> April – 30th September	All crime total	Percentage change vs. previous year
2019	74,456	-
2020	61,206	-18%
2021	69,548	+14%
2022	69,648	0%
2023	64,975	-7%

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

### Outcomes – Priority Crimes

- Data from September 2022 to August 2023 (see below) shows the Constabulary continues to achieve greater proportions of positive outcomes than the National averages across all priority crime types. We are also achieving higher proportions of positive outcomes on all but one category compared against the MSGs and North-West region..

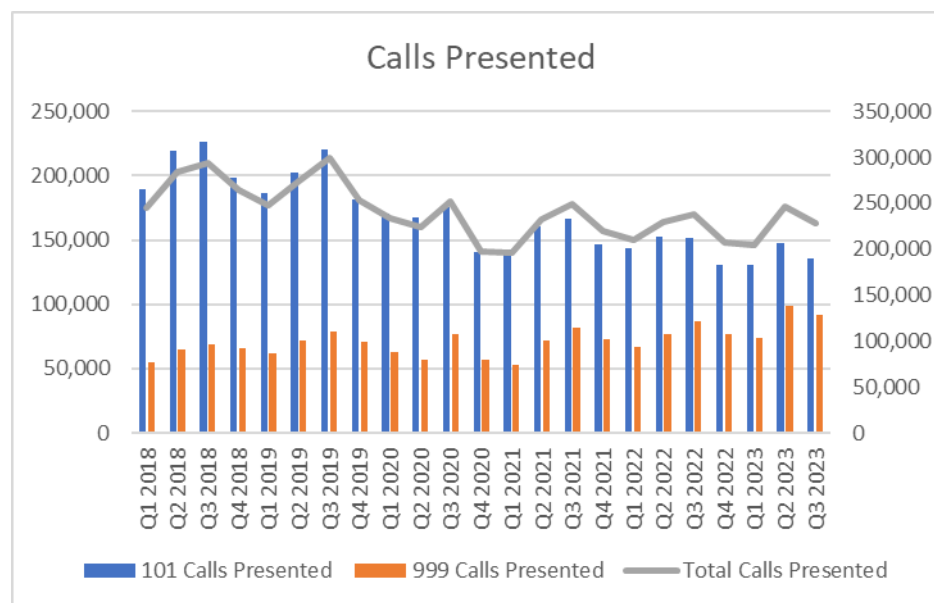
<b>Crime Type</b>	<b>Lancashire</b>
<b>All Crime</b>	<b>13.9%</b>
<b>Burglary (All)</b>	<b>8.4%</b>
<b>Other Sexual Ofences</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
<b>Rape</b>	<b>9.8%</b>
<b>Robbery and Personal Property</b>	<b>14.5%</b>

## Police and Crime Plan Priorities

### Efficient and Effective policing

#### Key Headlines

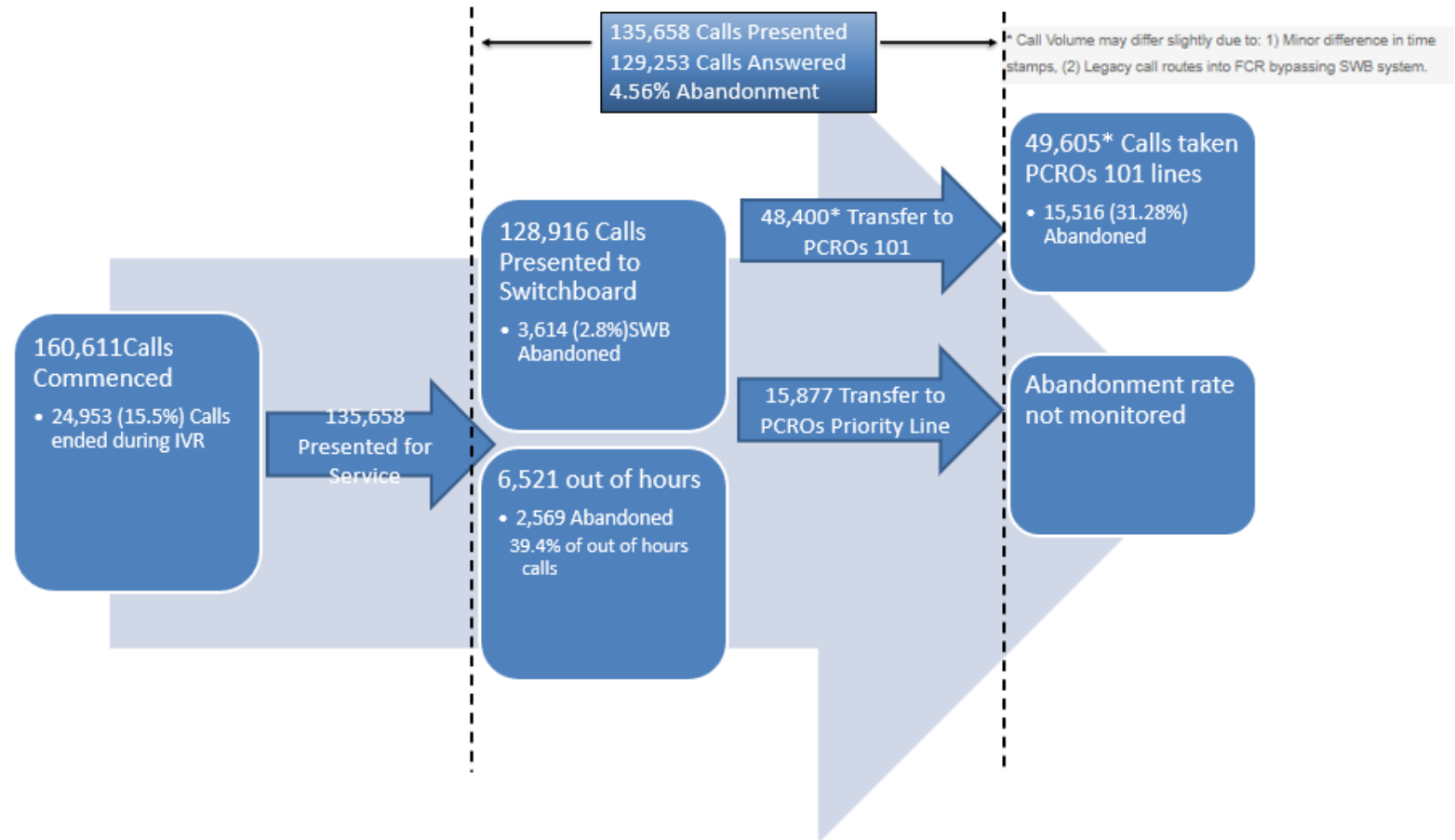
- Call demand has fallen in this quarter, both for 999 and 101 calls.
- This volume remains lower than the equivalent period 2019 and 2022 although higher than quarter 4 of 2022 and Quarter 1 of 2023.



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

*Source: FCR Live Dashboard*

# 101 Call Flow – July-September 2023



101 Call Flow Performance – July to September, 2023

Source: FCR Live dashboard, Power BI



- 101 abandonment rates – July 101 abandonment rate was 3.4% and a reduction to 2.3% was achieved in August.
- Recruitment into the part time rotas is currently ongoing and two part time PCRO intakes 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 commenced in August and one scheduled for 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 July were 90% and August 89.9%, significant improvements on last year 999 service level comparison at 61.4% and 52.3% respectively.

## 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 continuing to show a 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.










1 <sup>st</sup> April – 30 <sup>th</sup> September	ASB Incident total	Percentage change vs. previous year
2019	30,401	-
2020	52,329	+72%
2021	39,753	-25%
2022	30,956	-22%
2023	28,808	-7%

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

*Source: Responding Dashboard*

- Op Centurion – 1st quarter complete July-September. Phase 2 launched on 2nd October with a further 8 hotspots. Reported ASB incidents across the first 6 hotspot locations in July-Sept have reduced by 5.7%. Lancashire Talking data shows that in the 6 hotspots, confidence in the Police generally has increased by approximately 11% and confidence that we are dealing with ASB has increased by approximately 8%. This compares to 1-2% increase across the whole of Lancashire.
- Use of Civil Orders to tackle ASB – We have seen an increase in the number of Civil Orders being applied for since the ASB, Prevention and POP command Civil Orders officers have been in post. This has included a number of closure orders for both residential and business premises. Recording and monitoring of civil orders is being reviewed to ensure accuracy and accessibility of management information.
- Problem oriented policing to tackle ASB – POPs system has been reviewed and a significant number of changes have been requested to improve the efficiency and accessibility of the system. ICT are currently creating the process maps then we will know a timescale on completion, aiming for 2-3 months. The ASB, Prevention and Problem-Solving Team are reviewing POPs with a view to increasing the number of force-wide POPs including larger bids for funding for similar projects. Again, this will ensure best practise is shared and implemented across the force and our response to ASB is standardised.

## Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime

PURSUING OFFENDERS: REDUCING THEIR CAPABILITY & FINANCIAL GAIN				
 <p>336 arrests 56 charges</p>	 <p>38 people convicted 160 years imprisonment</p>	 <p>1 Completed (Sexual Risk Order)</p>	 <p>Total Cash Seizure £650,909</p>	<p>Disruptions <b>Total 314</b> Major 2 Moderate 62 Minor 243 No Impact 7</p>
 <p>8 Firearms recovered 0 rounds of ammunition</p>		 <p>14kg Class A drugs seized and 14 kg Class B seized &amp; 3599 Plants</p>		
PREVENTING & PROTECTING SERIOUS ORGANISED CRIME				
<p>multi- <b>20</b> agency meetings held</p>	<p>Worked in <b>Partnership</b> with different agencies to prevent &amp; protect against serious &amp; organised crime</p>		<p><b>Prevent Initiatives</b> SOC Diversion (MASP) ROC &amp; Clear Hold Build (Fleetwood) (Nelson)</p>	<p><b>7</b> Adults Safeguarded  <b>6</b> Children Safeguarded</p>

July - September 2023; Source: PAM system

## Key Headlines

### Modern Slavery/HT

- Freedom Bus – the new livery is now completed and the bus is operational. It was used at an event in Leyland in conjunction with South Ribble Local Authority, Tesco and supported by the Soroptimists. This generated 50k hits on social media.
- Virtual Reality Headsets are now ready and will be piloted shortly. These were designed in collaboration with UCLAN and will be used for raising awareness of HT/MS and increasing the ability to identify risk.

### County Lines

- Surge Funding 23/24 - Lancashire have been allocated £85,658. This will be spent between the 3 BCU's and is Pursue focused.
- County Lines App – this is an intelligence app that provides a “one stop shop” for all the information, contacts and methods for tackling county lines. It is available on mobile devices, Samsung's, and is designed to be easy to use. The Metropolitan Police and Merseyside are currently trialling this and then it will be rolled out to other forces, planned for October 2023.

### APMIS

- The Constabulary has migrated onto the national SOC recording database known as APMIS. This allows us to record our disruption activity against SOC directly. We have delivered face-to-face training across the force to all staff who will be using APMIS.

### Road Crime Team

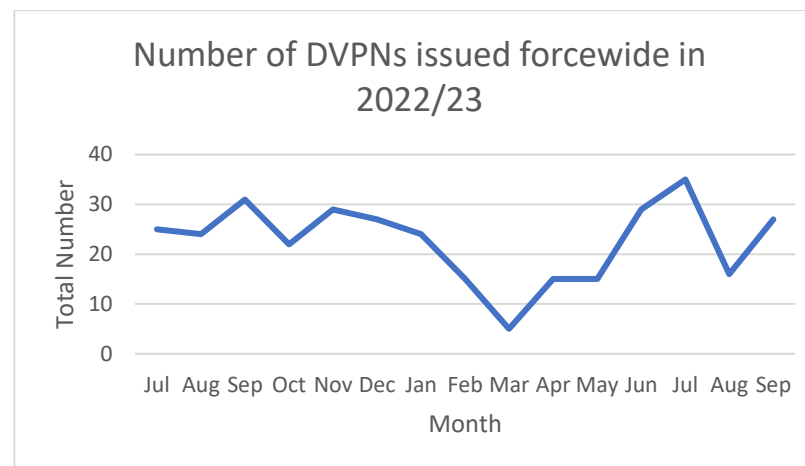
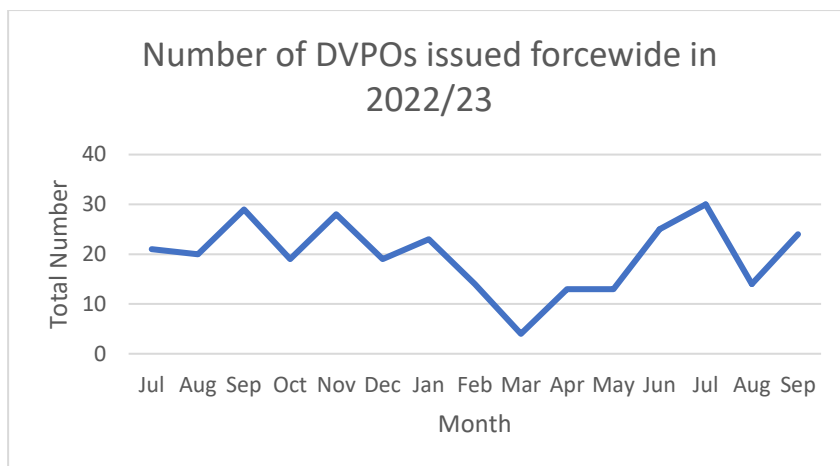
- The RCT continues to achieve great success and is directly linked into the SOC tasking process. Operations such as Op Manticore/Boomerang and the NCA Operation Chapelgate help us make intelligence led stops that result in the recovery of cash and make arrests for money laundering. Between 19<sup>th</sup> June and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023, the RCT seized £462,297.

## Tackling Domestic Abuse (DA) and Sexual Violence

1 <sup>st</sup> April – 30th September	DA Crime total	Percentage change vs. previous year
2019	10,198	-
2020	11,254	+10%
2021	12,775	+14%
2022	12,506	-2%
2023	11,097	-11%

### 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 remained stable** – 83% for the 12 months to the end of September 2023.
- Recorded Rape and Other Sexual Offences in between April and September 2023 showed an 11% decrease compared with the same period in 2022.
- Governance for VAWG now sits within the Strategic Vulnerability Board terms of reference within the Force vulnerability framework. A Chief Superintendent has been appointed as Head of Vulnerability and Public Protection. VAWG related offences feature predominantly in the priority areas of business scrutinised at the Board, and the related BCU meetings, and the trajectory is showing improvements in relation to outcomes specifically for victims of these types of crime. The aim of the SVB is to use the 4 P approaches to identify and respond to vulnerability.
- Embedding the national Op Soteria framework for victims of rape and sexual offences is an ongoing project offering specialist support to victims and progress was scrutinised via a weeks inspection in October/November. Initial feedback from HMICFRS was overwhelmingly positive, with the lead inspector commenting on a “professional and highly dedicated workforce – without exception”, particularly praising victim-focus of first responders and RASSO teams.



DVPN	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
	25	24	31	22	29	27	24	15	5	15	15	29	35	16	27
DVPO	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
	21	20	29	19	28	19	23	14	4	13	13	25	30	14	24

- Overall improvements in the use of protective and preventative orders have been maintained (see above). This may be linked to the new paperwork streamlining the process.
- Last November a super-complaint was submitted by the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, on behalf of the National Stalking Consortium, to the His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary and Fire Service (HMICFRS) and the Independent Office of Police Conduct (IOPC). HMICFRS have now been into Force, conducted their inspection in relation to this, and given verbal feedback to assist in improving our response to stalking and our service to victims of this life changing crime. This feedback has been scrutinised and where necessary transferred into SMART activity in the DA and Stalking Action tracker governed by the Vulnerability Board.
- A Stalking week of action has taken place, consisting of Teams sessions input each day. Guest speakers/areas included Nick Gazzard, CDIU – Conduct Crime, how to investigate stalking, CPS – Annabelle Hartley, Paladin & legal input on SPOs.

This has assisted in awareness of the complexity of crimes and what tools are available to support officers and the investigations.

- DA Matters training is being progressed through Reed Consultancy Plus, who are partnered with SafeLives, and are contracting via the Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation (YPO) Framework 940 – Managing Consultancy and Professional Services. Training will commence in early 2024, potentially on 19<sup>th</sup> February.

## Cracking Down on Burglary and Robbery

### Key Headlines

- Both categories of burglary have decreased compared with the same period in 2022. Personal robbery has increased compared with the same period in 2022, whilst business robbery has shown no change. 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> September</b>	<b>Burglary Business and Community Crime total</b>	<b>Percentage change vs. previous year</b>
<b>2019</b>	2,108	-
<b>2020</b>	1,388	-34%
<b>2021</b>	1,230	-11%
<b>2022</b>	1,421	+16%
<b>2023</b>	1,325	-7%
<b>1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Burglary Residential Crime total</b>	<b>Percentage change vs. previous year</b>
<b>2019</b>	3,845	-
<b>2020</b>	2,814	-27%
<b>2021</b>	2,388	-17%
<b>2022</b>	2,494	+7%
<b>2023</b>	2,333*	-6%
<b>1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Robbery Personal Crime Total</b>	<b>Percentage change vs. previous year</b>
<b>2019</b>	640	-
<b>2020</b>	458	-28%
<b>2021</b>	508	+11%
<b>2022</b>	501	-1%
<b>2023</b>	537	+7%



<b>1<sup>st</sup> April – 31<sup>st</sup> September</b>	<b>Robbery Business Crime total</b>	<b>Percentage change vs. previous year</b>
<b>2019</b>	45	-
<b>2020</b>	25	-44%
<b>2021</b>	29	+16%
<b>2022</b>	36	+24%
<b>2023</b>	36	NC

Source Power BI

\*includes burglary non-dwelling category

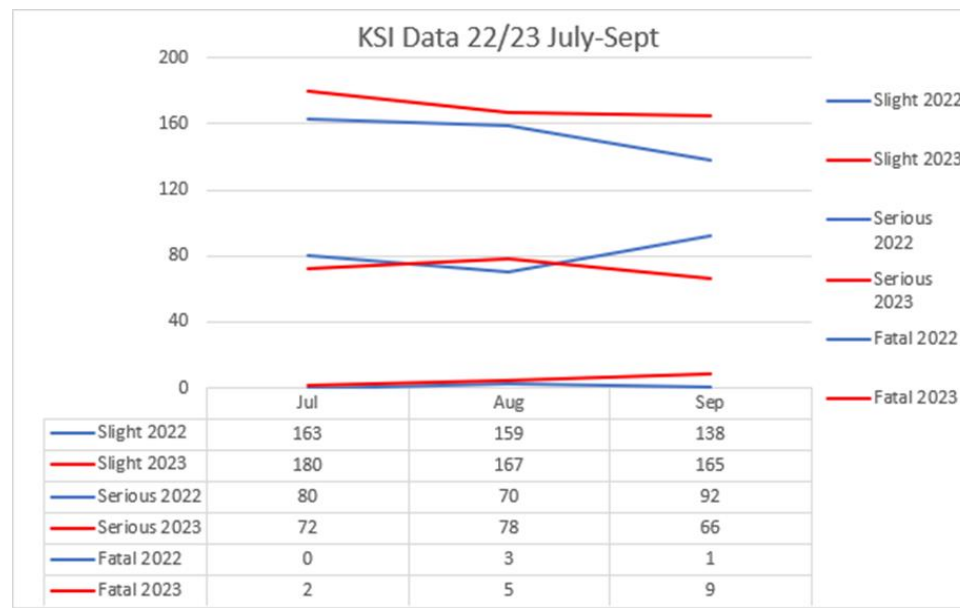
The NPCC lead for residential burglary has developed two new guides for operational policing. These are 'A practice guide to investigating residential burglary' and 'Minimum Standards of Digital Investigation for Residential Burglary'. This also includes a self-assessment for forces to consider completing. These guides are due to be released nationally on 6<sup>th</sup> October. Lancashire has assisted in development of these guides and have had an earlier access to enable us to make progress in developing our response.

A Task & Finish Group has been set up with representation from BCU's (response policing, NHP, investigations), Scientific Support, FCR, Corporate Development, Media and ICT to build on existing practices across Lancashire following implementation of the TOM for Response, NHP, FCR, TacOps and Investigations. The purpose will be to benchmark our current practice against national best practice and monitor our development throughout 2023/24.

This will assist ahead of the HMICFRS Inspection in 2024 in their PEEL Inspection across a number of key areas. Senior owner of this is ACC Mackenzie and DCS Stables with progress monitored through the Investigations Standards Board.

## 8. Targeting Dangerous Drivers

### Key Headlines



\_Source: Internal data and Collision Reporting and Sharing System- CRaSH

- 5% decrease in collisions Jan-Sept 2023 compared to 2022. Notable trend at present is the increasing presence of elderly drivers and/or pedestrians within the serious and fatal collisions.

	Mobile Phone	Excess speed (m/way)	Excess speed (30mph)	Seatbelt	Tyres <1.6mm	Insufficient transmission of light	Impaired arrests - Ops only
Jul-Sep 23	177	107	219	142	17	151	272
Jul-Sep 22	153	104	175	230	12	50	310

Jul-Sep 23    Jul-Sep 22

47% increase in TORs issued by Specialist Operations officers from Jul-Sep 2023 compared to the same period in 2022

	Jul-Sep 22	Jul-Sep 23
TORs - Ops data only	1569	2314
TORs - forcewide	2292	2961

	July		Aug		Sept	
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
Impaired arrests - forcewide	213	228	203	190	223	189
s165 - forcewide	232	251	265	259	208	284
s59 - forcewide	138	188	160	172	140	158

### Operation Virage

Between July and Sept 2023 there have been 92 positive outcomes, including 41 arrests for impaired driving, 14 TORs issued and 17 vehicles seized. On top of that we had 28 people who blew under the legal limit and were given words of advice with the officer sometimes advising whether they thought the target should be kept on or removed. 12 stops were believed potentially malicious.

As of 01/10/2023 there were 351 current targets with gradings as 74 Red, 101 Amber and 169 Green.



Road Crime Team results since team commenced on 19<sup>th</sup> June

The Roads Policing Unit continues to go from strength to strength following the TOM changes from TacOps. The training delivered over the last 18 months has paid dividends in enabling the dedicated roads policing officers in the new operating model to focus on dangerous drivers in all guises throughout Lancashire, and this is clearly demonstrated in the significant increases in enforcement output.

Operation Vertebrae in July (M6/M61/M65 commercial vehicle focus) was supported by £16k funding from national Organised Immigration Crime and enabled our operation to run with high levels of dedicated staffing through the week. We had really significant buy-in from partner agencies, in particular the Environment Agency Joint Waste Crime Unit who were delighted (again) with the interventions and intelligence dividend they captured from the waste movements brought into the checksite through the week.

Of note, of 354 commercial vehicles brought into the checksites at Cuerden & Heysham, 204 issued FPN or prohibition by Lancs RPU, a further 12 HGVs and 31 LGVs prohibited by DVSA, and 2 HGV drivers arrested for positive drug wipe. Of the abnormal loads brought in, 100% were found to be non-compliant to varying degrees. £16k worth of fines (equal to the amount funding the Operation) issued by our officers, which all goes to HMCTS.

We continue to push forward in regard to the specialism around HGV enforcement; 8 further RPU officers have qualified to prohibit unsafe HGV and LGV vehicles over 7 tonnes. We now have the equipment and process in place to immobilise such vehicles independent of DVSA and keenly await the delivery of the new CVU / SCIU scene vans which will enable far greater road-side deployment of specialist equipment and tactics across the county.

The RPU fleet is stabilising after the delays and challenges previously described, the new mixed Volvo / Skoda assets are proving highly effective in undertaking their intended roles.

## POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Meeting to be held on 4 December 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 3 October 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
23/2023	Joint Independent Ethics Committee	Governance	3 October 2023
24/2023	Estate Resourcing and Scheme Progress	Delivering efficient and effective policing	23 August 2023
25/2023	Pension Forfeiture (restricted)	Governance	31 October 2023
26/2023	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund – Fighting Crime Grant	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour  Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	27 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
27/2023	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund Police Innovation Fund	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour  Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	19 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
28/2023	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund – Fighting Crime Grant	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour  Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	19 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
29/2023	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund – Fighting Crime Grant	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour  Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	12 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
30/2023	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund – Fighting Crime Grant	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour  Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	26 <sup>th</sup> October 2023

31/2023	Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund Police Innovation Fund	Getting tough on Anti-Social Behaviour  Disrupting and Dismantling Organised Crime	31st October 2023
	Delegated Decisions		24 November 2023

### 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 24 November 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.

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

Meeting to be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023

:

## **Annual Police (Fire) and Crime Panels Conference 2023**

Contact for further information: Phil Llewellyn, Democratic & Scrutiny Lead,  
[phil.llewellyn@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:phil.llewellyn@blackburn.gov.uk)

### **Executive Summary**

This report gives details of the 12<sup>th</sup> National Conference for Chairs, Members and Officers of Police (Fire) and Crime Panels held on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

### **Recommendation**

That the Panel note the report.

## **Background and Advice**

The 12<sup>th</sup> National Conference for Chairs, Members and Officers of Police (Fire) and Crime Panels was held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023, organised by Frontline Consulting, at the University of Warwick.

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

The Conference Plenary Theme was 'Collaboration and Challenge – Making it Work'.

The Panel was made up of Danny Shaw, Crime, Justice, Policing and Immigration commentator and ex BBC Home Affairs correspondent, three Police and Crime Commissioners and Ann Reeder, ex Director and Founder of Frontline Consulting, who chaired the Panel.

The Panel discussed the quality of PCCs in place across the country, and the need for greater public engagement by PCPs. Another common theme was the need for Panels to be more strategic and not focus on parochial issues. '.

## **Conference Details**

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

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

- Public Confidence in Policing
- Measuring Success
- Preparing for Change

Key takeaways from these sessions included the need to publicise our work amongst the public and one suggestion was drawing up an annual report of the work of the panel and forwarding this to the media.

As regards improving scrutiny there was the idea of holding a pre meeting before the Panel meeting to check through the questions and areas, involving the Chair, Vice Chair and the PCC to ensure that meetings could be as productive as possible and anything that was not clear could be looked at ahead of the meeting to free up valuable focussed scrutiny time.

To assist scrutiny, the Panel should be provided with statistics as to how Lancashire's crime and ASB figures and percentage increases/decreases compared with other forces and be supplied with the reports of HM Inspectorate of Forces on the Force. Other ideas were having in depth presentations on specific subjects and members visiting the Control Room.

Lines of questions to the Commissioner should include whether the Commissioner was checking the right culture and attitudes were operating within the Force and that the recruitment process supported this. The Commissioner should be asked what themes were emerging from meetings with his Commissioner colleagues and what he was doing on the national scene.

The operation of the Control Room was a key driver to public confidence in the Force and suggested innovations include a call back system and having a portal for the public to report in suspicious activities/conduct.

It was also suggested that Panels across the country could consider a Peer Review or Support Hub model.

Outcomes were also a key focus, with the need to make recommendations to PCCs.

In terms of Preparing for Change, the main focus was on the forthcoming PCC Elections and any ensuing changes that would result.

All 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