

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LEICESTERSHIRE

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Report of	OFFICE OF POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER (OPCC)
Subject	COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE TO POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
Date	WEDNESDAY 26 TH JULY, 2023
Author	LIZZIE STARR, DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE AND PERFORMANCE, OPCC

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the panel with an update on the activities undertaken by the Commissioner, his deputy and OPCC in relation to the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan and the Commissioner's statutory duties covering the period March - June 2023.
2. The report also summarises any key decisions made over the period and a summary of the performance of the OPCC.

Recommendation

3. The panel is invited to scrutinise the contents of this report, seek assurance from the Commissioner and OPCC team regarding areas of concern, seek further information on the information pertained within the report.
4. The panel are invited to comment on the format of this update report and advise if they find this helpful in assisting them in fulfilling their duties of scrutinising the PCC in the delivery of his police and Crime plan and fulfilling his statutory duties.

The Police and Crime Commissioner

5. The Commissioner is represented at the key thematic, partnership and force local performance boards to obtain assurance that the Force and Partners are aware of the current performance threats and taking appropriate action to address the emerging challenges. Any issues of concern are reported to the Commissioner who holds the Chief Constable to account on a weekly basis.
6. The Commissioner's partnership and community engagement schedule are reported regularly through the OPCC website and the official twitter of the OPCC. The commissioner also regularly produced a blog from his community days which are available on the website.

7. Further to the weekly community visits the office is preparing for the summer events; the Commissioner has recently attended the following; Rutland County Show, Hinckley Pride and Ratha Yatra Chariot festival to ensure he is consistently engaging with the public and different communities.

The Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner:

8. Leicestershire’s Deputy PCC also continues to undertake a diverse range of community engagement activities which have included attendance at Loughborough University, EMPOWER network workshops, The Big Help Out, WEN steering group, Street Doctors, Wildecats and the Family Hubs Conference for example. Formal partnership engagements have included the Health and Wellbeing board, CSP Meetings, Strategic Partnership Board, Ethics and Transparency Panel, JARAP etc.
9. The OPCC and DPCC hosted a VAWG partnership event in March 2023, which was attended by a variety of partners, community leaders and organisations from Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. The day was full of positive engagement regarding tackling the issues relating to Violence against Women and Girls. There were various speakers over the day covering topics such as; the national VAWG agenda, the Serious Violence Duty, Commissioned services, and local policing challenges.

The Police and Crime Commissioner’s Office:

Commissioning:

10. The recommissioning work of the victim support services has progressed, and progress made has included consultation with the current delivery team, market engagement event with all victim service providers has been completed and engagement with Leicestershire police.
11. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner has arranged bid writing workshops for organisations looking to learn the tools they need to submit successful, innovative bids to a funding opportunity. So far, the team successfully has held delivery workshops in Blaby District, Hinckley & Bosworth, Harborough District and future ones are planned for Melton, Rutland, North West Leicestershire, Charnwood, Oadby & Wigston and also in the City online.
12. This grants scheme channels funding into community projects that help reduce the risk of crime and abuse and increase public safety. There is £400,000 available for the 2023/2024 financial year and you may apply for up to £10,000 of funding for a twelve-month project. This maximum exists to support as many projects and initiatives as possible.

<u>Round</u>	<u>Opening Date</u>	<u>Closing Date</u>
1	3 rd July 2023	31 st July 2023
2	4 th September 2023	2 nd October 2023
3	4 th December 2023	8 th January 2024

Community Safety Partnerships

13. The refreshed process for the CSP funding is now fully embedded and working well. There is a regular review process by the Office, which supports the CSPs in ensuring the bids are supported by the OPCC. There are currently over 30 different projects at various stages of the process across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, a full summary of the funding breakdown and interventions will be provided to the panel once the money has all be allocated.
14. The DPCC and Director of Partnerships, Strategy and Commissioning have been meeting all CSP chairs and leads to further explain the four serious violence duty roles and how they will support the partnerships.

People Zones

15. The Panel has received a separate update paper on the People Zones workstream, however regular updates to the panel on the work going on in this area will be included in this section moving forwards.

Community Leadership Programme

16. The VRN and OPCC co-funded a third cohort of the Community Leadership Programme, the principal aim of the programme is to support local community leaders to develop their leadership style, knowledge and skills so that they can apply these within their own work to build stronger and safer communities. All members of cohort three successfully completed the course and a celebratory showcase event was held on the 3rd May 2023.

Independent Custody Visiting

17. The OPCC has just completed and finished training its latest recruits to the ICV scheme bringing the total number of volunteers up to 18.
18. In the month of May 2023, a total of 7 visits took place, 3 within Euston Street Custody Suite and 4 at Keyham Lane Custody Suite. The Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner has also attended a custody visit in May 2023 with two volunteers to understand more about the scheme and its importance. No serious issues have been observed within these visits.

Ethics and Transparency Panel

19. The Ethics and Transparency panel have now met a number of times, the meetings are extremely productive and the work of the panel has also been facilitated by a number of 'access all areas' visits to departments and teams across the Force. This ensures the panel members can delve deeply into the work of the Force and OPCC and provide assurance that work is being done in a legitimate and ethical manner.
20. The areas currently visited by the Ethics panel members include; Safeguarding Hub, Contact Management Department, Professional Standards Department, Custody and the Domestic Abuse Resolution Team. A number of recommendations for the PCC and CC to implement have been suggested following these visits. A full summary of these visits can be found in the Ethics and Transparency reports on the OPCC website.

Governance

21. The OPCC team has completed the recruitment of four serious violence duty posts. Of these vacancies, funded by the Home Office to implement the duty, three have been filled and one is being supported by Leicester City Council.
22. Over the course of April and May a total of 21 Police complaint reviews were received and are being processed by the team.
23. The panel has received a full CGB report from the March meeting, and these will continue to be brought to the panel as standing items to show the main forum in which the PCC holds the Chief Constable to account for the performance of the Force.
24. In June 2023, the Digital Crime Performance Pack was publicly launched by the Home Office which aims to make this data more accessible to the public in an easier-to-understand format. The Office uses the internal version of this pack to look for performance exceptions to raise with the Force, benchmarking against other force areas.
25. The OPCC attended the Out of Court Scrutiny Panel in which a number of offences where an Out Of Court Disposal was used are dip sampled to look to see if the actions in applying this outcome are appropriate or proportionate. The PCC is briefed on the outcomes of this panel, however in this instance 2 offences were highlighted (out of 30) as being used inconsistently or inappropriately. These will be followed up with the force.

Local Criminal Justice Board

26. Since the first meeting of the LCJB, which took place on 13 November 2022, there have been two further meetings on 11 January 2023 and 25 April 2023. These were attended by core members from the criminal justice system including Leicestershire Police, HMCTS, CPS, Witness Care, Youth Offending Service and the Judiciary, representing their area of business and providing updates to the group.
27. The board has been presented with performance data from the various agencies, so that this can be reviewed, scrutinised, whilst also holding members to account regarding their performance. Work is currently ongoing within the OPCC to develop the data presented at the LCJB.
28. Whilst the Commissioner was appointed as the Chair for the LCJB, the decision was made that the Chief Constable, Mr Rob Nixon, would now assume the role of the Chair and ACC Kerry Smith was appointed as the Deputy Chair. This change was implemented on 25 April 2023. The appointment of the Chief Constable was agreed by all members and would work in line with the Chief Constable's new role as the NPCC portfolio holder for Criminal Justice.
29. Representatives from the OPCC will continue to attend the LCJB. The administration of the LCJB will be undertaken by the PCC's office. Performance data will be analysed by the OPCC performance analyst.
30. The Chief Constable is currently looking to review the membership and the ToR, which will be circulated and discussed with the members in due course. The next meeting will be taking place on 03 August 2023, with future meetings taking place every quarter.

Persons to Contact

Lizzie Starr
Director of Governance and Performance
Elizabeth.starr@leics.police.uk