



- Councillor Paul Taylor
- Councillor John Wilmott
- Lesley Dalby
- Councillor Corall Jenkins

## **2 Declarations of Interests**

No interests were disclosed.

## **3 Police and Crime Commissioner's Update Report**

The Police and Crime Commissioner introduced the report, with the Chief Constable also in attendance for this item. The Police and Crime Commissioner highlighted the following points:

- Meetings took place on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> November with senior leaders across Nottinghamshire communities, the voluntary sector, and the Force, to consult these groups whilst the plan continued to develop. A further meeting was scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024.
- The emerging Police and Crime Plan featured an additional focus on hate crime, modern slavery, and rural communities.
- Next steps included securing grant funding and developing commissioning plans, reviewing partnership arrangements for delivery, and finalising an annual delivery plan with specific actions aligned to the ambitions of the Police and Crime Plan.
- Neighbourhood policing had gone live in October 2024, receiving positive publicity in local news. The core neighbourhood policing pillars consisted of engagement, problem-solving, and targeted activity.
- A new governance structure saw Sergeants chairing local tasking meetings. Inspectors would chair multi-agency problem-solving meetings in local neighbourhood policing teams.
- The adoption of the Abstractions Policy in July 2024 was having a positive impact on the frequency of officers being taken away from their neighbourhood policing roles.
- A Right Care, Right Service initiative had been launched which aimed to limit police involvement where it wasn't necessarily required. The PCC cited a focus on partnership working with the NHS and local authorities to achieve this goal.
- A restructured accountability board aimed to provide increased transparency for the Force. As part of this, the Chief Constable engaged in a public scrutiny process via direct questions from the public.
- The Head of Special Crime from the Metropolitan Police and a representative of the National Police Chief's Council both voiced their praise at how Nottinghamshire Police dealt with knife crime in terms of both prevention and enforcement.
- The Commissioner had been invited to the Home Office to discuss a knife-enabled robbery task force. He had used this opportunity to raise issues faced by Nottinghamshire to the Home Secretary.

Several issues were raised and points made during discussion:

Members raised their concerns on Bassetlaw's lack of provision for the previous knife amnesty. The PCC noted the Panel's request to make appropriate provision in Bassetlaw for any future amnesty initiatives.

The Commissioner was asked to clarify the real terms increase of neighbourhood police numbers in consideration of the figure presented to members earlier in the year by the previous Commissioner. In response, the PCC could not clarify as he was not in position when the original figure was provided, 240 new police staff purely dedicated to the neighbourhoods. These figures did not include officers that worked alongside the neighbourhood teams alongside other duties. Members were informed of ongoing national discussions for the baselines for measuring uplift in police numbers. Baselines considered by the Home Office and by the OPCC differed at the time of the meeting.

In response to members' requests to clarify how the new abstraction policy was monitored, it was explained that abstraction was measured by individual officers logging the number of hours lost on work outside of their role parameters on an app that fed into a weekly overview. The baseline to measure abstraction began at the launch of the neighbourhood policing teams. The Chief Constable emphasised the importance of gaining an understanding of the time requirements for different roles within the teams, noting that the Superintendent will have oversight to monitor this.

The Commissioner outlined the importance of retaining young people in education through either school or alternative provision. He acknowledged that official guidance and funding from central government was necessary to remove young people from the periphery before they entered the criminal justice route.

Panel Members thanked the Commissioner for his added inclusion of rural crime in response to the reported low trust amongst rural communities.

In reference to the 303 referrals listed in the report, Members requested a formal update on Immediate Justice plan in the form of a published report next year. The OPCC was also asked for a breakdown of crimes covered under Immediate Justice. The Panel was informed of the Commissioner's visit to an Immediate Justice event, at which he engaged first-hand with participants in the initiative.

In response to the Panel's question on the review of partnership arrangements, the Commissioner explained a comprehensive review would take place in due course. Commissioner Godden advised that despite the high demand on his time, he valued involvement in partnership working and was grateful for the additional capacity to engage with partners afforded by having a Deputy PCC.

Regarding the Commissioner's reference to Right Care Right Person, the Chief Constable clarified this was a national initiative adopted locally, aimed at reducing unnecessary police involvement in health and complex social care cases. The number of people detained by the Force in respect of mental health conditions was forecast to reduce.

The Panel highlighted the PEEL report finding that the Force took on work from local authorities in dealing with certain local issues. The Chief Constable was asked to clarify the guidance for anti-social behaviour and to confirm if there is a clear separation of responsibility between the Force and local authorities. The Chief Constable agreed that many cases of anti-social behaviour can require police presence, and in other cases, advisory services had been introduced to give residents advice on dealing with antisocial behaviour. It was proposed that further discussion take place to establish how local authorities can deal with certain types of antisocial behaviour and how the Force can assist going forward.

The Chair of the Panel raised Nottinghamshire's success in dealing with shoplifting, noting that the national news highlighted this. The Chief Constable listed the following initiatives relevant to retail crime:

- Prevention hub for long-term problem solving.
- Operation Synergy, a national collaborative project with the National Business Crime Solution, Matalan, Co-op, and Iceland.
- Offender rehabilitation, aiming to rehabilitate prolific offenders by diverting them to other agencies rather than the criminal justice route.
- Operation Motivation, targeting sell-on shops and licensed premises.

The Chief Constable assured members of the importance of the neighbourhood policing teams for proactive, long-term prevention. 5 extra officers were to be added in support roles for the neighbourhood police team, alongside the establishment of a problem-solving plan for each area.

#### **Actions:**

The OPCC was to confirm the numbers of additional officers involved in neighbourhood policing from the figure presented to the Panel at the start of the year. More detail regarding the Right Care Right Person initiative was to be presented in the next update.

#### **Resolved 2024/024**

1. That the Panel noted the contents of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Update Report following discussion.

The Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable left the meeting following consideration of this item, with the agreement of the Police and Crime Panel Chair.

#### **4 Police and Crime Plan Performance Update to September 2024**

The Head of Strategy and Performance delivered an overview of performance via the key performance indicators that underpinned the plan. An update was provided for the changed KPI's which were due to be finalised the following weekend.

- There were 12 KPI's revolving around the core pillar, with the intention of driving the right activity and behaviours within the force.
- Within the report, the changes made to the draft PCP plan were outlined as a

table comparing with the previous indicators. 15 indicators had been replaced by 17 new indicators.

- A new indicator was proposed to address violence against women and girls. Other new indicators included a focus on positive outcomes, on 999 calls aimed to be answered within 10 seconds, abandonment rates, and a focus on the quality of completed investigations.
- No major shift occurred in terms of performance against the plan. There were strong reductions on neighbourhood crime with no single causal factor, but rather, an alignment of safer streets activity.
- ASB levels were trending down, despite increases in particular ASB behaviours. There was a strong upturn in victim satisfaction, with more people offered the support service.
- The community cohesion indicators were alarming, in part due to the drop of public confidence and a deterioration of outcomes for minority ethnic backgrounds.
- Use of out of court resolutions decreased, but the Force are transitioned to new framework for out of court resolutions that is aimed to increase the figures.
- There had been a sharp increase in utilisation of stop and search alongside a deterioration of positive outcomes presented to Members in the last meeting. Since, the Force identified an anomalous area of their recordings. Their new performance tracking tool rectified those figures to show a 2.9% increase in positive outcome rates and a 26% reduction of stop and search since April 2024.

The Head of Strategy and Performance clarified that the Performance report did not encompass every monitored indicator. Other issues not featured as main indicators tended to be very low volume offences and saw many fluctuations throughout the year, requiring a different approach. In response to the example of fraud, posed by Members, the online fraud partnership was highlighted as the remediation.

Despite strong call answering performance rates, Members noted the increase in abandonment rate and questioned the data behind 101 calls. Anecdotally, Members recalled resident complaints about the long wait times for 101 calls. The Head of Strategy and Performance clarified that the accepted parameter for call answering was within 2 minutes\*. An anecdotal increase in people approaching front counters to report crimes had been noted by the OPCC, and further data was required to understand the exact cause

\*Note: It has subsequently been confirmed that the accepted parameter is 1 minute, and not 2 minutes as reported at the meeting..

The PCC held the recent accountability board focused on contact management, noting that Nottinghamshire saw record positive figures in this area. The Chief Executive confirmed online reporting was being considered as a useful asset for the public. The DPCC added that an instant reporting tool would vastly increase the number of crimes reported.

The Panel requested data to compare Crimestoppers reporting against 101 calls and direct reporting to councils. The OPCC and the Panel both welcomed the gathering of data for positive publicity to combat anecdotal evidence and build confidence to

use existing systems.

Members praised the hotspot funding initiative for building public confidence. The Chief Executive stated that those projects have the funding to end next year. Ultimately, the OPCC would have to wait until the Chancellor's announcement in December. In the meantime, financial sustainability meetings chaired by the Chief Financial Officer of the OPCC have taken place to explore sustainable funding options. The PCC has aimed to explore innovative ideas for funding by partnering with the voluntary sector, as well as consulting with all partners and stakeholders to ensure there is no cliff edge for funding.

Regarding police recorded hate crime, the Panel sought clarification on non-crime hate instances and hate crime instances. Members were informed that the statistics measured both hate crimes and non-crime hate incidents following Home Office mandated categorisations. The figure of 2,400 from within the report included both elements. A full breakdown was to be made available to Panel Members following the meeting.

The Panel enquired about the two-tier out of court resolution framework launching in January. An update on the scheme was requested alongside the Immediate Justice update in 2025.

#### **Actions:**

The OPCC undertook to provide an update on the proportion of reporting through Crimestoppers, 101, and councils, and to disaggregate between crime hate and non-crime hate incidents in future Police and Crime Plan Performance Updates.

#### **Resolved 2024/025**

1. That the report be noted following questions and comments from the Panel.

#### **5 Minutes of last meeting held on 16 September 2024**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2024 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### **6 Minutes of the Confirmation Hearing held on 16 September 2024 - Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner**

The minutes of the Confirmation Hearing held on 16 September 2024 for the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### **7 Work Programme**

Members noted the contents of the Panel's work programme.

Arising from earlier discussion, Immediate Justice and two-tier court resolutions

were to be added to the work programme. Members of the Panel also requested a timely update on the VAWG strategy in light of national and local increases in violence against women. The meeting scheduled for the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025 was proposed as a suitable follow-up.

An invite was extended to the PCC and the Panel for a visit to a Magistrates Court on the 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2025.

**Actions:**

It was agreed that a joint report to provide an update on Immediate Justice and the new framework for 2-Tier out of court resolutions was to be presented to Members at the September 2025 meeting.

**Resolved 2024/026**

1. That the published work programme be approved.

**8 Police and Crime Panel Annual Report 2023-24**

The Chair summarised the report as sufficiently scrutinised and discussed in previous meetings. Members were asked to provide any last amendments by Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

**Resolved 2024/027**

1. That the Panel noted the contents of the Annual Report.

**9 Complaints and Reviews Assurance Report**

The Chief Executive presented the report to members and provided a supplementary overview of review arrangements and meetings that took place in relation to the item. Meetings were regularly scheduled with the Force's Head of Professional Standards, with the IOPC at an oversight meeting, and with the Deputy Chief Constable, all aimed at considering developing issues and trends at various levels. In relation to complaint reviews wherein the complainant was still dissatisfied, the OPCC had focused on ensuring that organisational and individual learning were an immediate response.

In response to a members' query on the increase of the resolution time for complaints, the Chief Executive assured that this question had been raised internally. A meeting with the Head of Professional Standards was to take place the following week for clarification.

The Chief Executive highlighted that the IOPC were under new leadership, resulting in a new commitment to reduce the time taken in the investigation of complaints. Complaints of this nature had been raised with the IOPC on a national scale, and further meetings with the regional head of the IOPC responsible for Nottinghamshire were scheduled.

**Actions:**

The PCC was to provide an update on the increased timescales for completing complaint cases.

**Resolved 2024/028**

1. That the Panel noted the contents of the Complaints and Reviews Assurance Report.

Meeting closed at 15:21