

Nottinghamshire's Police and Crime Commissioner's

First Annual Report

2012 - 2013

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Message from the Commissioner

Policing will always present both opportunity and challenge and 2012-13 has been no exception. While the funding picture remains bleak, new policies and priorities are being implemented and the potential for improvement is tangible. This first Annual Report encompasses my early months in office but it also embraces the work of my predecessors, the Police Authority, whose thorough planning and high standards have brought safer streets and financial stability. The responsibility to cultivate this good work now falls to me and the publication of my first Police and Crime Plan sets out exactly how I aim to do this.

Back in November, I made a series of pledges demonstrating my commitment to making Nottinghamshire safer and improving the service witnesses, victims and the general public receives from their local police. Among these was a promise to fight for fair funding and campaign against further cuts to our budget, both of which I've tackled at the highest level.

I'm well aware that to deliver the kind of improvements I envisage for Nottinghamshire we need adequate investment and I am continuing to lobby for more and fairer resources from Central Government to achieve this. The public will always feel safer with a strong police presence on their streets which is why I've already adopted a budget which allows us to deploy an additional 150 police officers and 100 Police Community Support Officers in Nottinghamshire.

These new officers will increase our capacity to respond to local crime and will play an instrumental role in reassuring residents. Anti-social behaviour has a significant impact on the fear of crime, perhaps more so than the violence which dominates our news channels. In view of this, I've pledged to reduce anti-social behaviour by half over the next four years and already we are continuing to see reductions. I'm very keen to keep this momentum going and have committed £500,000 to support the work of community based projects aimed at tackling anti-social behaviour, alcohol and supporting victims and vulnerable people. We've also started to develop an alcohol strategy to address crime and disorder which is inextricably linked..

One of my highest priorities as Commissioner is to offer greater protection to vulnerable women who are at risk of becoming victims of crime, particularly domestic abuse. There is an urgent need in Nottinghamshire to step up our support of such victims and ensure our approach is right so that more women feel confident in coming forward. This has been a major factor in my appointment of my Deputy, Chris Cutland, who will take a special responsibility for domestic abuse services, public protection and victims' services. As former Chief Executive of Women's Aid, Chris's background and experience will be of immense value towards this goal.

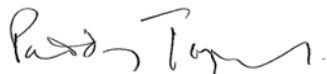
Victims will underpin everything we do. I regard their needs for justice, effective policing and support the most important of all. Already we are looking to expand the opportunities for good quality Restorative Justice in the county to bring more offenders face-to-face with their victims and repair the harm. To build upon the support offered to victims I realise that investment is needed and I will make sure

that such funding is readily available for services which are dedicated to their interests.

While crime fell again this year, we face a challenging year ahead in relation to resources. This will place increasing emphasis on partnership working and shared responsibility. It is my aim to deliver a service which breaks down the barriers of policing and allows normal people to look inside and make their own judgements. Importantly, this will not cost any more to the public as our operating costs are some 10% less than the Police Authority. We will be fair and honest about our decisions and protect taxpayers' money through our on-going scrutiny of the Force.

The initial handover from the Police Authority is complete and we are now working towards the second stage of the transfer process. When the first phase took place in November, all assets and staff belonging to the Police Authority were transferred to Police and Crime Commissioners. Before April next year, the Chief Constable and I will decide which police staff will transfer to his responsibility. The transfer arrangements will need to be approved by the Home Secretary and it will mean for the first time, the Chief Constable will employ staff directly.

The year ahead will no doubt present us with fresh challenges but I'm excited about the relationships we are building and the increasingly active role the public is playing in fighting crime. Despite the state of the economy, I'm confident we can continue to create safer, peaceful communities.



Paddy Tipping
Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner

1. Introduction

Since my election on the 15 November 2012, I have been working with the Deputy Commissioner to put into action the pledges I made as part of my election campaign. These commitments are now set out in my first [Police and Crime Plan](#) in accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

I am required by law to produce an annual report and to share it with the Police and Crime panel for their consideration. I will be publishing my response to their comments and recommendations following their meeting in July 2013.

This report covers the whole of the financial year from April 2012 to March 2013, and highlights some of the key achievements I have made since signing the Oath as the first Police and Crime Commissioner for Nottinghamshire on the 20 November 2012. It also importantly reflects the performance improvements achieved by my predecessors, the Police Authority.

My Police and Crime Plan draws strongly on the experiences of the public, shared with us during our extensive engagement and consultation programme. It aims to put their views – and the interests of victims – at the heart of policing for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire and sets out the main priorities for action over the next five years, reflecting on what you have told us needs to happen for you to be safe and feel safe from crime.

The Plan was launched at Mansfield Town Football Club on Thursday March 28, marking the beginning of a new era of policing governance. I am determined to give residents and businesses a bigger voice in policing to build safer communities, improve trust and confidence in policing and deliver value for money policing and community safety services.

My Police and Crime Plan is built on:

- my election pledges
- the seven priorities I have identified through partnership working and consultation; and
- supporting actions aimed at reducing crime and which, in turn, will lead to fewer victims

2. Vision

My vision was clear throughout my Election campaign, to be the 'People's Commissioner', making myself available to individuals, victims of crime and communities and listen to their concerns. There was extensive consultation undertaken within my first weeks as Commissioner, which gave my Police and Crime Plan a clear direction and path of action over the next five years. The focus of everything we do will be on "...giving victims and citizens a bigger voice in policing to achieve a safer Nottingham and Nottinghamshire."

3. Pledges

- **Campaign against Government funding cuts to Nottinghamshire's Police Budget**

I have:

- Met with the Home Secretary and Policing Minister to lobby for fairer funding and more police officers for Nottinghamshire. I will continue to lobby for more resources at every opportunity. An early achievement is the Government's decision to review the funding formula.
- Worked with other Police and Crime Commissioners across the region to discuss and agree regional budgets for major crime, serious and organised crime and other collaborative projects and I plan to do more.
- Consulted and engaged with the community, stakeholders and Police and Crime Panel with regards to the development of the Police and Crime Plan and setting the Police budget and precept.
- Maintained the same level of funding of £3million to local partnerships to provide community safety and victims' services despite a reduction in the Community Safety funding provided by Government.

- **Improve Community Policing across Nottinghamshire by taking on 150 extra Police Officers and 100 Police Community Support Officers**

I have:

- Taken steps to enable the recruitment of 150 Police Officers who will be directed towards local policing.
- Supported the development of the Police Cadet Scheme and begun to have discussion about the roll-out of Parish Constables.
- Supported the increased focus on recruiting Specials.
- Started to recruit volunteers to help review the effectiveness of the Force through a 'Mystery Shopper scheme'.

- **Work in partnership to reduce antisocial behaviour by 50%**

I have:

- Held a Restorative Justice Summit with key partners to ensure victims get the best deal and identify how this approach can be expanded.
- Provided funding to enable partners to work together to combat antisocial behaviour in priority neighbourhoods.
- Set up a Community Safety Partnership fund of £500,000 to support the work of community based projects aimed at tackling anti-social behaviour, alcohol and supporting victims and vulnerable people.
- Started work to develop an alcohol strategy and conference planned for 1st July 2013, securing a Probation Service secondment to help take this work forward.

- **Give extra priority and resources to domestic violence and crimes against girls and women**

I have:

- Identified funding to commission research into gaining a better understanding of girls and young women's involvement in gangs
- Commissioned services through the third sector to protect and safeguard women from abuse and violence.

- Followed up work on the recommendations from the Domestic Abuse Scrutiny Committee Report led by the former Police Authority.
- Worked with Nottingham Citizens on a safer routes project with the Force to improve safety to young people especially girls, travelling to school.
- **Ensure that victims of crime are treated as people, not cases, and Victim Support is properly funded**
I have:
 - Commissioned independent research into the BME communities' experiences of policing. I will ensure that the Police are more responsive to their needs and experiences.
 - Started scoping out the needs and requirements of a new 'Victims Strategy' ready for October 2014.
 - Committed to providing funding to Victim Support and Crimestoppers.
 - Called for greater awareness of the absolute terror that 'Stalkers' can inflict following National Stalking Awareness Day by the Deputy Commissioner.
- **Be fair, honest and protect taxpayers' money**
I have:
 - Commissioned an independent review of the policing budget to improve value for money.
 - Set a budget for the governance of policing of £1.1 million compared to £1.22 million of the former Police Authority realising a saving of 10%.
 - Started a review to identify further savings from regional collaboration activity with other Forces. I am committed to doing more through regional collaboration to protect local policing.
 - Invested in preventing crime through the Community Safety Partnership Fund.

4. Summary of performance 2012/13

Crime

- The Force ended the year with a significant year-on-year reduction of 12.0% (9,313 less offences), exceeding the Policing Plan 2012-13 target of 8% by 4.6% (3,120 offences). This is excellent performance, however it should be emphasised that this will make the 10% reduction target for next year even more challenging.
- The target was achieved mainly through significant crime reductions in Theft and Handling and Criminal Damage. However, there were major increases in Sexual Offences (many of which were historical incidents) and Drug Offences. Violence against the Person (VAP) continues to be a main area of concern although there was still a minor year-on-year reduction.
- VAP continued to decline by 2.9% (502 less offences). Again, historical Sexual Offences have adversely affected the VAP target. In addition, VAP with Injury has increased but VAP without injury offences has decreased. However, Robbery offences recorded a strong year-on-year reduction.

- The Force finished 2012-13 strongly in terms of its overall 'All Crime' reduction and detection rate. Excellent performance was also recorded in respect of antisocial behaviour, Domestic Violence (DV) Arrests and Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) recoveries.

Detection Rate

- The Force achieved an overall detection rate of 35.7% just short of the 36% target. The current rate represents a 1.7% increase on the rate of 34.1% recorded in 2011-12. In addition to this strong monthly performance, the Force is performing well against peers, being better than both the current national average and the Most Similar Group (MSG) average for this measure.
- The main changes in performance in 2012-13 have been a drop off in Taken into Consideration (TICs) and a marked increase in the use of Community Resolution disposals e.g. Restorative Justice.

Arrests of Domestic Violence Suspects

- Overall performance over the year has been positive, with a high percentage of DV offences resulting in an arrest (93.8% for 2012-13). The County accounts for more DV offences than the City and has managed to record and maintain strong performance throughout the year in terms of the overall arrest rate.
- Positively, the arrest rate for offences risk assessed as High is over 97% for the year and has remained stable month-on-month, while the arrest rates for both Medium and Standard risk offences were above 90% for the year.

First Time Entry (FTE) into YJD (Youth Justice Database)

- Overall for 2012-13 the Force has nearly halved the number of First Time Entries (FTEs) entered on to the Youth Justice Database, with 509 FTEs compared to 880 in the financial performance year. This level of performance is replicated consistently on both the City and the County Divisions, with the City Youth Offending Service (YOS) recording a 39.0% (157 FTEs) reduction and the County Youth Offending Team (YOT) recording a 44.9% (214 FTEs) reduction during the same time period. One of the main drivers of this performance has been the increased use of Community Resolution (CR) disposals for low level offenders, particularly young offenders.

Anti-social behaviour

- Nottinghamshire ended the performance year in a healthy position, recording almost half the number of Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) incidents in March compared to the same month last year. As a consequence the year-end reduction nudged upward to 34.6% and means the Force has exceeded the 2012-13 Policing Plan target of a 10% reduction in ASB incidents.

- The outlook for ASB performance remains extremely positive, with the Force continuing to record unprecedented reductions in volume, and reassuringly these are seen consistently across all districts. Data for all forces in England and Wales suggest that Nottinghamshire has continued to reduce volume at a faster rate than other forces, and this is evident in an improvement in the Force's current rank within both the national and MSG standings.

Killed or Seriously Injured (KSIs)

- The validated figures for the whole of 2012 are now available. Whilst there are reductions in the overall number of people killed or injured, which is to be welcomed, the scale of the reduction when compared to the 2011 figure is disappointing. The headline figures are: Fatalities down to 33 from 37 in 2011 (10.8% reduction), seriously injured down to 545 from 568 (4% reduction), KSI casualties down to 578 from 605 (4.5% reduction), slightly injured down to 3,217 from 3,413 (5.7% reduction) and total number of injury collisions recorded down from 2984 to 2853 (4.4% reduction).
- However, figures for Q1 in 2013 (January to March) are showing a significant reduction when compared to the same period in 2012. While the level of reduction achieved in 2012 is lower than the 17.4% target, overall the Force remains broadly on track to achieve the Nottinghamshire Strategic Safety Partnership target of a 50% reduction in KSI's by 2020. However, it will become challenging this year and especially next year if double digit reductions in KSI's are not forthcoming. As Commissioner, I will be ensuring we build on the existing relationships with Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Council to address on-going road safety issues.

Assets Recovered from the Proceeds of Crime Act

- The Force has achieved the target set out in the Policing Plan, with large increases recorded in the average value of both cash forfeitures (+27.6%) and confiscation orders (+17.0%). Confiscation orders have also surpassed the £1.2 million mark, as well as the total recorded in 2011/12. Further to this, new processes and training are being rolled across the Force which will hopefully further imbed the POCA processes in to investigations.

5. Governance

Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2012 and the Policing Protocol Order 2011, I am responsible for the totality of policing within Nottinghamshire. The Act also requires me to hold the Chief Constable to account for the operational delivery of policing, including the strategic policy requirement published by the Home Secretary.

I have put in place a range of mechanisms to enable me to deliver good policing governance. These include:

- Producing a Police and Crime Plan to set the strategic direction for policing and community safety
- Holding regular meetings with the Force and Partners to discuss performance
- Publishing a policy of how I intend to make decisions in an open and transparent way
- Producing a new Scheme of Delegation and Financial Regulations for the Force on how they can make decisions and spend money
- Publishing guidance on how I will deal with public complaints and handle requests for Freedom of Information
- Holding regular meetings with the public and victims of crime to give them a bigger voice and to make sure that the Police act on these public concerns quickly
- Identifying future risks to policing and putting in place an action plan with the Force to address them
- Putting in place a programme of audit to provide assurance against delivery of the Police and Crime Plan
- Establishing a joint Corporate Code of Governance between myself and the Chief Constable

Police and Crime Panel

I have attended several meetings with the Police and Crime Panel for Nottinghamshire. This Panel is responsible for reviewing and scrutinising the decisions and work that I have undertaken. They have been provided with an opportunity to provide their views on the budget for policing, including setting the precept levels and helping to shape the Police and Crime Plan to ensure it reflects the needs across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. I am grateful for the Panel's challenge and support in the work I have undertaken to date.

6. Policing and Community Safety 2012/13

The economic outlook continues to be bleak with public sector funding facing a further potential 10% cut in 2015-16. This will have resulted in over £50m having to be saved over the five-year period.

Despite these financial constraints I have produced a Medium Term Financial Plan that sees additional recruitment in the frontline to ensure performance continues to improve.

I am supportive of the Collaboration work being delivered across the region and I am committed to further collaboration in other operational policing areas and with back office services. This will be required if we are to achieve the required savings for all of the East Midlands Commissioners and Forces.

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 included the transfer of all assets, liabilities and police staff to myself as Commissioner, until the stage two transfer order has been completed.

The Chief Constable is now a legal entity and therefore is required to produce a statement of accounts and annual governance statement. This will be quite limited for the 2013-13 and 2013-14 financial years as the transfer order will only come into effect on 1st April 2014. The Chief Constable's statement of accounts will form part of the Group accounts of the Commissioner, in much the same way as subsidiaries do in the private sector.

The Act made specific requirements in relation to the Scheme of Delegation, in particular there could be no delegations made to any constable and therefore delegations which enabled business to continue within the Force were made to the Assistant Chief Officer of Resources.

The Police & Crime revenue budget is £196.9m for 2013-14 and there is a capital programme of £7.856m.

The precept is set at £169.65 for a Band D property, while the average property in Nottinghamshire is a Band B, paying £131.95.

The financial gap is on average £10m per annum since the austerity measures began in 2011-12 and this is set to continue into 2015-16.

7. Community Safety Partnership Fund - Helping communities reduce crime and protect victims

In addition to the main Police Grant, I also received a Community Safety Grant from the Home Office. This was less than that which had been previously administered directly to organisations in the City and County and therefore I have contributed funding from my own budget to bring this financial support in line with that of 2012-13. I will use the Community Safety Grant to continue to commission local and third sector groups within the community to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

I have also made available some additional funding for targeted commissioning in domestic and sexual violence, girls and gangs and young people and restorative justice.

In addition, I have also set a further £500,000 aside to provide funding to local community groups and third sector organisations in relation to crime prevention, protecting vulnerable people and victims' services. Local groups working in this area are able to apply for grants up to a maximum of £25,000. This has attracted over 80 applications and the successful applicants will be notified by the end of June 2013. This funding ensures communities are able to deliver against priorities at a local level

8. HMIC Validation and Audit

There have been a number of audits and inspections conducted over the last 12 months which have led to improved standards in policing services. These have included:

RSM Tenon:

- **Partnerships (July 2012)** – identified effective governance arrangements being in place for partnerships.
- **Management of Crime (July 2012)** - provided assurance that the Force objectives, within the Policing Plan 2011-15, were on target to be achieved, despite the cutbacks and the current economic climate. They highlighted future performance challenges.
- **Budgetary Control and General Ledger (September 2012)** - assessed the Force's annual budget setting process and financial systems as being consistently applied and effective.
- **Procurement Programme of Change (November 2012)** – reviewed the set-up and the development of the Strategic Procurement Unit.
- **Protecting Vulnerable People (November 2012)** – a follow up review which identified good progress.
- **Strategic Risk Management (March 2013)** – reviews risk management arrangements of the Commissioner and the Force concluding that controls were in place.

Inspections

- **Office of the Surveillance Commissioner, Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) (June 2012):** The Office of the Surveillance Commissioner conducted a review of the Force's use of RIPA and noted actions for improvement have been implemented.
- **Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) Stop and Search (March 2013):** An inspection was conducted to determine the effectiveness and fairness of the use of powers to stop and search people. The Force was inspected as part of 'phase 3' of the national inspection programme and is awaiting the final report.
- **HMIC Inspection of Police Force Engagement with the National Ballistic Intelligence Service (January 2013):** In 2013, HMIC carried out an inspection of the Force compliance with the 'Memorandum of Understanding between the National Ballistics Intelligence Service (NABIS) and the Police Forces and Partner Law Enforcement Agencies of England and Wales' and is awaiting the final report.
- **HMIC Follow Up Review of Police Crime and Incident Records (August 2012):** A follow up review of an inspection conducted by HMIC in 2011 to review police crime and incident records took place in August 2012. The review focused on improvements in crime recording processes which the Force has made since the initial visit and is currently awaiting the final report.
- **HMIC Re-Visit Inspection Antisocial Behaviour (January 2013):** During March 2012 HMIC completed an inspection programme looking at the effectiveness of the approach taken by police forces in England and Wales to

tackle anti-social behaviour. At the request of the Force, HMIC re-visited Nottinghamshire during January 2013 to review the progress that had been made. The re-visit focused upon the areas for further improvement that had been identified during the March 2012 Inspection and is currently awaiting the final report.

- **HMIC Follow Up Police Integrity Review (August 2012):** The Police Integrity Review was conducted during the summer 2011, with the findings published in December 2011 in the HMIC report 'Without Fear of Favour'. The recommendations made in the report included the provision for a reassessment to inform the incoming Police and Crime Commissioner and the Police and Crime Panels which were introduced in November 2012.
- **Criminal Justice Joint Inspection (CJJI) Unannounced Re-Visit to Custody (March 2013):** The Force was inspected in 2011 as part of a programme of inspections of police custody carried out jointly by HMIP and HMIC. The inspections focused on strategy, treatment and conditions, individual rights and health care. The Force was subject to a re-visit inspection in March 2013 and is currently awaiting the report.

9. Way Forward

I am looking forward to continuing the momentum we have achieved through working with our partners and our communities to deliver the objectives of my Police and Crime Plan. I look forward to working with the Police and Crime Panel to continue to challenge and improve the policing and community safety services.

I am absolutely committed to making a difference and building new relationships to fight crime and keep people safe while they live, work and visit Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. I would like to thank all those who are working hard to meet this aim.