

**Devon and Cornwall Police and
Crime Panel**

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Published: 4 November 2021



DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Friday 12 November 2021
10.30 am
Warspite Room, Council House

Members:

Councillors Alvey (Cornwall Council), Atiya-Alla (Torbay Council), Biederman (North Devon Council), Chopak (Cornwall Council), Croad (Devon County Council), Dewhirst (Teignbridge District Council), Fitter (Cornwall Council), Hackett (Torridge Council), Hopwood (South Hams District Council), Knowles (Mid Devon District Council), Loudoun (East Devon Council), Mrs Pengelly (Plymouth City Council), Rodger (Isles of Scilly), Salmon (Plymouth City Council), Samuel (West Devon Council), Tilbey (Cornwall Council), Towill (Cornwall Council), Wright (Exeter City Council).

Independent Members: Sharon Minty (Cornwall), one vacancy (Devon).

Members are invited to attend this meeting to consider the items of business overleaf. This meeting will be webcast and available on-line after the meeting. By entering the Council Chamber, councillors are consenting to being filmed during the meeting and to the use of the recording for the webcast. The Council is a data controller under the Data Protection Act. Data collected during this webcast will be retained in accordance with authority's published policy. For further information on attending Council meetings and how to engage in the democratic process please follow this link - <http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/accesstomeetings>

Tracey Lee
Chief Executive

Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for non-attendance submitted by Members.

2. Minutes

(Pages 1 - 6)

To sign and confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2021.

3. Declarations of Interest

Members will be asked to make any declaration of interest in respect of items on this agenda.

4. Public Questions

To receive questions from (and provide answers to) members of the public that are relevant to the panel's functions.

Questions should be no longer than 100 words and sent to Democratic Support, Plymouth City Council, Floor 3, Ballard House, West Hoe Road, Plymouth, PL1 3BJ or democratic.support@plymouth.gov.uk

Questions must be received at least 5 complete working days before the meeting.

5. Commissioner's Update Report

(Pages 7 - 16)

6. Serious Violence Prevention Partnership: Creating Safer Futures in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

(Pages 17 - 28)

7. End to End Rape Review and Support for Victims of Sexual Violence

(Pages 29 - 36)

8. Monitoring the Progress of the Police and Crime Plan 2021-25

(Pages 37 - 48)

9. Complaints Against the Police and Crime Commissioner Received Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act

(Pages 49 - 50)

10. Work Programme - to follow

Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel**Friday 17 September 2021****PRESENT:**

Councillor Croad, in the Chair.

Councillor Towill, Vice Chair.

Councillors Alvey, Atiya-Alla, Dewhirst, Fitter, Hackett, Knowles, Partridge, Mrs Pengelly, Samuel and Wright.

Co-opted Representatives: Sharon Minty (Independent Member for Cornwall)

Apologies for absence: Councillors Biederman, Chopak, Hopwood, Loudoun, Rodgers, Tilbey and Salmon.

Also in attendance: Alison Hernandez (Police and Crime Commissioner), Frances Hughes (Chief Executive for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner), Felicity Ridgeway (Director of Operations for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner), Jamie Sheldon and Jake Metcalfe

The meeting started at 10:30 and finished at 11:41.

Note: At a future meeting, the Panel will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

Councillor Croad offered words of solace in relation to the tragic Keyham events and thanked people across the country and the world who had offered condolences to the City and the community of Keyham.

Councillor Croad led members in a minutes silence as a mark of respect for those who tragically lost their lives in the devastating incident and in support also of their families and loved ones as well as all those who had been affected.

55. Minutes

The Chair proposed the minutes of 9 July 2021 to the panel for approval, this was seconded by Councillor Towill.

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

56. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Towill declared a private interest as a holder of a Devon and Cornwall Police firearms license.

Sharon Minty declared a private interest in relation to item 5 and 7 due to employment for an organisation that delivered victim support.

57. Public Questions

There had been no public questions submitted.

58. Summary of Police and Crime Commissioner's Response to the Mass Shootings in Keyham, Plymouth

Alison Hernandez, Police and Crime Commissioner, introduced the report to members and commented on the tragedy, the one minutes silence at the beginning of the meeting and thanked people for their response following the events.

Members discussed:

- Thanked members for the one minutes silence at the beginning of the meeting and thanked the Police and Crime Commissioner for her response of the tragedy.
- Councillor Mrs Vivien Pengelly formally thanked all the emergency responders who had bravely ran to the aid of the people in Keyham. Councillor Mrs Pengelly commented on their care and dedication to their roles. Plymouth City Council staff had been thanked for tirelessly helping the residents of Keyham affected in the aftermath.
- Plymouthtogether.co.uk had been set up for residents to have information, updates and advice on the support that had been put together.
- Local community groups, ward councillors and MPs had been thanked for their response.
- Alison Hernandez, Police and Crime Commissioner, advised the Panel that the OPCC had been in contact with Home Office and Ministry of Justice to acquire more resources for the community; hot spot policing had been used in Keyham for which the Police and Crime Commissioner had some reservations around for not wanting to over criminalising a community following a response; Safer Streets initiative successfully implemented in Stonehouse would be extended to Keyham. Alison Hernandez, Police and Crime Commissioner, would be requesting £3 million over three years to help fund the response.
- The victim support line is available to anyone in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly that had been a victim of crime.

59. Commissioner's Update Report

Alison Hernandez, Police and Crime Commissioner, presented the report to members and updated members on the following points:

- The Safer Streets bid for Exeter and another part of Plymouth had been delayed.

- Within the Vision Zero Partnership, the Board had taken full control of the camera partnership and would be seeking to implement changes to achieve their targets. The Commissioner thanked members for their commitment in their communities through the community speed watch and volunteers who had kept people safe on the roads.
- The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner had been successful in receiving extra funding for the Domestic Abuse Perpetrators programme. The Police had been funding victim support in relation to domestic abuse but the funding would start to tackle the perpetrators.
- The summer of 2021 had been busy for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, due to the impact of COVID-19 and the UK population opting for more 'staycations'. This had also resulted in more traffic and tragically deaths had occurred on the roads.
- If members of the public wanted to sight the live wait times of the 101 service they would be able to go online for this information.
- Newquay Police station had reopened to the public and the Commissioner expressed a commitment to reopen Tiverton's Police station in Devon along with others across the region afterwards.

Members discussed:

- That there had been a spike in deaths on the highways in Devon and Cornwall. The Commissioner clarified that there had been 21 deaths on the regions roads over a three month period which had reinforced the decision to move forward with the Vision Zero partnership to bring those road deaths to zero. The Commissioner advised members that people wanting to end their lives on the road rather than having a collision and losing their lives had increased and would be brought back to the Panel at a later date to have a discussion.
- A request for an update on traveller legislation at a future meeting due to on-going problems caused in the region.
- Members requested that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner circulate to the public the re-opening of Newquay Police station and other future Police stations in the future.
- The Commissioner advised members that Tiverton Police station would open in the Autumn of 2021.
- The Commissioner had been thanked by Councillor Knowles for the grant in relation to CCTV and would be implementing this shortly.
- The Police and Crime Commissioner advised members that Operation Snap provided 200 uploads a month with around two thirds having some

form of action taken. The Commissioner would also look into initiatives to reduce horse deaths and other related problems across the region.

- The Commissioner had advised Councillor Hackett that handheld camera's for community speed watch teams should be supplied by the Police. If this had not been happening the Commissioner requested this to be submitted in writing.
- The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner would correspond with Councillor Lois Samuel with further information of the domestic abuse perpetrator programme in order for this to inform the Domestic Abuse Commissioners Panel of good practice between Devon, Cornwall, Plymouth and Torbay as a collective.

60. **Draft Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025**

Alison Hernandez, Police and Crime Commissioner, introduced the report to members.

Members discussed:

- Would the Commissioner in the Draft Police and Crime Plan provide more prominence of her voice of the plans to tackle violent crime that disproportionality affect women and girls?

Alison Hernandez, Police and Crime Commissioner, advised that this had been at the forefront of her thoughts and would reflect on how the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner will enable the public to understand that violence against women and girls is taken seriously.

- The survey results did not provide any gender specification which would provide insight into the difference in crime affecting the different genders.
- Concern that the Police and Crime Commissioner had not been doing any work with people from an ethnic minority background with the backdrop of a raise in hate crime following the COVID-19 pandemic. Concerns had also been raised that 3% of respondents to the draft plan were from a BME background. What would the Commissioner be doing in terms of policy to help BME communities going forward?

The Commissioner highlighted that this was a draft plan and the OPCC had been working out what the measures of success are and the Commissioner would monitor hate crime as part of those measures, this would be critical to understand whether communities were cohesive. BME respondents to the survey had been more than the percentage of population in the 2011 census. The Commissioner would reflect on how to reassure members that these issues are being focussed on.

- The Commissioner advised that the Devon and Cornwall Police force did not reflect BME communities enough and suggested this as an item for a

future meeting in order to show what the Police had been doing in terms of recruitment to better reflect communities.

- Anti-social behaviour had been consistently raised as one of the top three areas of concern for the public. Plymouth had seen an increased volume in anti-social behaviour especially at night. How serious had the Commissioner been taking this?

Alison Hernandez, Police and Crime Commissioner, advised that the force and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner needed to complete some work in properly defining anti-social behaviour. This had been due to certain things such as dog-fouling being classified under anti-social behaviour but it had not been within the remit for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The Commissioner also expressed concern over the bureaucracy of anti-social behaviour and the various agencies required to be involved which would lead to an increased length of time to problem solve. The Commissioner would like to streamline this process.

The Panel noted the report.

61. **Government Review of the Role of Police and Crime Commissioner (Part 2)**

Frances Hughes, Chief Executive of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, introduced the report to members and highlighted the following key points:

- Members were advised that part one and part two of the Government review would be summarised and presented to ministers before the end of November 2021, to allow for legislative time. It was anticipated that primary legislation would need to change to reflect outcomes.
- Deloitte had been commissioned and they would be contacting a cross section of Police and Crime Panels over the immediate coming weeks wishing to seek conversations with members.

Members noted the report.

62. **Complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner received under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act**

There had been no complaints made to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner since the new term of office.

63. **Work Programme - To Follow**

Members discussed:

- Neighbourhood Watch, this had moved to November's agenda from the September meeting

- Traveller Legislation update



Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel

12th November 2021

COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE REPORT Safe, Resilient and Connected Communities

This is a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Alison Hernandez, drawing the Police and Crime Panel's attention to a number of matters that have arisen, or progress that has been made, since the last Panel meeting in September 2021.

1. SAFE

New Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025

I am pleased to confirm that the new Police and Crime Plan 2021-25 will be published w/c 8th November 2021. The Plan will be made available on my website and copies will be provided to Panel on the day of meeting (12th November 2021).

The plan takes on board the comments from the Police and Crime Panel received after the last meeting and the feedback received from the extensive engagement activity undertaken. The public survey to gauge support for measures outlined in the draft 2021-25 Police and Crime Plan for Devon and Cornwall attracted a total of 2,212 respondents, and my team is also now preparing for qualitative and quantitative public engagement to inform decision making around the 2022-23 budget aligned to the Plan.

Op Uplift (Police Office Recruitment)

The Government's Operation Uplift, which started in April 2020, has a national ambition of recruiting 20,000 additional officers in three years and figures released this week by the Office of National Statistics show that 11,053 of these new officers are already in post.

Devon and Cornwall police remain on course to deliver an additional 181 police officers this year, as detailed in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (40 officers paid for from council tax precept and 141 paid for from the national uplift).

Street Safe Online Tool

Last month the Home Office and National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) launched StreetSafe, an online mapping tool which allows all members of the public to flag areas where they do not feel safe and say why.



Primarily, but not exclusively, aimed at women and girls, the data collected from StreetSafe will allow police to understand specific concerns and use the information to make decisions on safety in the area. For more information visit: <https://www.police.uk/streetsafe>

Investment in improving safety on our streets

I continue to support investment in protecting communities and have secured an additional investment of over £1.5 million to improve safety on the streets of Devon and Cornwall through various rounds of the Government's Safer Street Fund.

Plymouth

In previous reports I have updated the panel regarding the successful award of funding and the continuation of key elements of the Stronger North Stonehouse Project in Plymouth (£546,000) following the end of Home Office funding in June 2021. These projects are continuing to progress with partners and will complete in March 2022.

Under Safer Streets Round 3 Plymouth has been awarded an additional £512,000 for a range of projects and activities focused on Stonehouse, the Hoe and Barbican, the city centre and the Mutley/North Hill areas of the city. The funding will support a number of infrastructure initiatives, including the provision of additional CCTV cameras and enhanced street lighting in key locations as well as providing direct public links to the city's CCTV control room. A significant focus of the bid is on behaviour change and prevention and the funding will be used to deliver numerous education and awareness schemes within the city including Bystander Awareness Training for people working in the night-time economy, education in schools and a Sex Worker Outreach project. The funding will also support graffiti clean-ups and murals in Mutley and Stonehouse to help reclaim public spaces and support the street pastor scheme within the city. This is focused particularly on women and girls but will reduce crime and help everyone feel safer in Plymouth.

Falmouth

Safer Street Round 4 has also awarded Falmouth just over £33,000 in funding. This will support the installation of six upgraded CCTV cameras for the town centre. It will also be used to support a student-led VAWG group to run awareness campaigns or projects, as well as bystander training for staff employed in the night-time economy.

Exeter

Exeter has been awarded £432,000 to tackle crime and make streets safer in the city centre and surrounding areas. The Government has awarded £432,000 to the scheme, which, taken together with local match funding, will see a total investment of over £550,000 over the next 10 months.

The money for Exeter will be used to make streets safer and comes from a fund focused on preventing neighbourhood crimes like burglary, vehicle theft and robbery. The investments being made will also help improve people's safety in public spaces during the daytime and at night and will help to prevent wider criminality and antisocial behaviour.

The funding will go towards measures proven to cut crime, including the installation of 17 new CCTV cameras, enhanced street lighting in problem areas as well as crime prevention training and property marking campaigns.

The funding will also support investment in community projects such as graffiti clean-up, park improvements and the set-up of new Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and security improvements for properties.

Vision Zero - Call for ideas

One of the four main pillars of my new Police and Crime Plan is road safety and through the Peninsula Partnership we have offered communities the chance to bid for funding to make improvements in their neighbourhoods. Applications closed on 1st November and we are in the process of evaluating the submissions for the community to receive a share of £100,000 for community road safety improvements

The 'Call For Ideas' sought projects that require relatively small amounts of money but offer 'big wins' when it comes to preventing death and serious injury on our roads. Driving down serious collisions is something we simply cannot do without the public's help.

Dashcam trial with Op Snap

In September I updated the panel on the Project EDWARD (Every Day Without A Road Death) week of action. I marked opened the week of action on 13th September by launching a road safety convoy as it left Plymouth and headed along the A38 to the Devon Air Ambulance base at Exeter Airport. The day also served as the launch of a new project between the Vision Zero South West Partnership and National Highways (formerly Highways England) in which up to 170 dashcams will be issued to commercial firms that regularly use our road network to allow them to feed into Devon and Cornwall Police's Op Snap. The dashcams have been issued to South West Water, Live West, Cormac, Cornwall Council and the RNLI with discussions continuing with two major firms to get another 30 cameras out for use. The Safe38 group (an organisation campaigning for increased safety standards on the A38 in Cornwall) are currently identifying local businesses and will have 10 cameras for use. Following the wide publicity of the launch of the trial, my office has received a number of requests for dashcams from members of the public. These requests are being managed by my team with a further six cameras being issued so far.

Since Op Snap was founded in 2019, Devon and Cornwall Police have issued almost 1,500 notices of Intended Prosecutions and more than 600 warnings to motorists across the two counties. In September, one third of submissions were from cyclists suggesting the scheme is receiving improved engagement from different road users. I am really pleased to be able highlight a submission from the horse-riding community this month. Dashcams are not the sole reserve of vehicle users – we can accept video footage from vulnerable road users including pedestrians, horse riders, cyclists and motorcyclists. Op Snap information and results are now available from the VZSW website <https://visionzerosouthwest.co.uk/> and regular updates will be posted via Facebook and Twitter @visionzerosw.

No Excuse Team performance

In the last 12 months the No Excuse Team has detected 1322 traffic offences and made 144 arrests, and are working alongside the Highway Authorities across Devon and Cornwall to prioritise routes informed by the data and evidence as posing the highest risk.

As part of the 2020/21 uplift of police officers, an additional Police Sergeant has been allocated alongside six Police Constables. This will create two full teams working from Bodmin and Exeter respectively to support local policing teams with taskings around road related harm. Through VZSW a tasking and co-ordination process has been established, where community concerns and data are blended to identify priorities and allocate resource to the biggest problems, in addition to developing a Road Safety Data and Analysis Hub to provide detailed intelligence and analysis of

problem routes. Greater use is being made of infographics to improve transparency including creating a portal on the Vision Zero website for individuals to feed in concerns around routes where driving standards are poor.

I am pleased to report the Force are currently recruiting additional Speed Detection Officers to be based at Barnstaple and Camborne, in addition to two mobile Speed Detection Officers using portable speed detection equipment on motorcycles. The mobile officers will be based at Exeter and Bodmin and will support the deployment of Community Speedwatch teams across Devon and Cornwall with the ability to capture offences and hold poor drivers to account.

2. Resilient

Plymouth Community Recovery

Since the tragedy and trauma of the events in Keyham, Plymouth on Thursday 12th August 2021, my office has been actively supporting the recovery efforts across Keyham and more broadly across Plymouth.

In the immediate aftermath of the shootings, partners from across all agencies have come together to provide immediate support to all affected and start the long-term work to rebuild confidence of the community and its capacity to recover from this tragedy. I am continuing to work with partners to support the local community and ensure that we can maximise services and opportunities for the Keyham community and assist victims' families to recover from the violence and tragedy.

Since the last panel, my office has been leading partnership discussions with the Home Office and Ministry of Justice to secure funding for recovery support. This work has been informed by evidence and learning from the response to similar events in the UK and internationally. At time of writing activity is expected to be delivered under three separate grant arrangements working to deliver:

- 1) Community Policing (£514,092)
- 2) Safer Places (£308,360)
- 3) Support to victims and witnesses (£182,721)

Together, these workstreams represent an additional investment of £1,005,173 to support recovery in Keyham.

Street Games

I have commissioned Street Games, a national organisation to work specifically with young people in Plymouth to divert them from violence, crime or anti-social behaviour. This started in November 2020 and will run as a pilot for at least 18 months. This pilot is being delivered as part of the prevention of serious violence programme and is overseen by representatives from the police, youth offending, Plymouth City council and Street Games nationally. I joined those responsible for its delivery to discuss progress, learning and next steps at an event in Plymouth in October.

Of the 99 referrals up to mid-October, 69 were boys and 30 girls, the majority (41) being in the 10-13 age group. They come from over 40 different areas of Plymouth and are given the opportunity, often for the first time, to take part in football, surfing, free running, street dance/arts, skateboarding, mountain biking, trampolining and boxing.

That number is expected to rise to 279 by next April and 423 12 months later, which will bring the total number of officers to 3,610 – significantly higher than the 3,556 officers in 2010 pre-austerity.

Small Grants Scheme

This year I have committed a total of £90,000 through my Small Grants Scheme to enable communities to build resilience and work with me to achieve safer communities. I have made £60,000 available for Devon, Torbay and Plymouth and £30,000 in Cornwall, with grants of between £1,000 and £5,000 being made available to projects.

This year the funds have been administered by the relevant Community Foundations for Devon and Cornwall and I would like to thank both organisations for their support in helping these important projects come to fruition. The awarded funds will support community groups undertaking activities that connect the public to its police force, prevent and deter crime, protect people at risk of abuse and those who are vulnerable, or help victims or witnesses to get justice.

I have been able to fund 19 projects in full (6 in Cornwall and 13 in Devon). In addition, 3 projects in Cornwall have been part funded by my office. Details of this year's successful awards are available from my office, but examples include CCTV in community playing fields in Newton Poppleford, support programmes for victims of domestic abuse in both Cornwall and Devon, training and workshops around sexual violence in Devon schools and colleges, funding to run a youth club in Cornwall, support for a youth justice coordinator in Cornwall to work with young people and group sessions in Cornwall for young men at risk of offending.

Support for victims

The Victim Care Unit is commissioned and funded by my office but it is a police based unit and service model managed by the Police. It was established to provide immediate support and, with consent, onward referrals to service providers on the Victim Care Network.

In quarter 2 of 2021/22, 5,639 victims were supported by the VCU. This was a decrease of 34.8% on quarter 2 last year and a 22.6% decrease on quarter 1. 4,048 victims were given supportive advice by the VCU team and 806 victims (14.3%) were referred on to a service on the Victim Care Network. 24% of these referrals were related to a domestic abuse crime.

Increasing trends this quarter have been seen in the numbers of victims of harassment, violence without injury as a result of neighbourhood disputes, criminal damage and stalking.

Following the multiple shooting in Keyham, members of the VCU accompanied some OPCC staff and Victim Support to offer immediate support to the community. The OPCC engagement van was present in Keyham all of the first week after the incident to facilitate this offer of support.

In terms of Victims funding in 2021/22, Devon and Cornwall OPCC have been successful in bids attracting an additional £1,155,266 of funding for Victims Services, including £182,721 for the Keyham community.

Community Speedwatch

Community Speedwatch (CSW) continues to develop and enhance its offer in line with the improvement plan that was put in place following the scrutiny session that I chaired in May 2021.

The number of active CSW groups and sites across Devon and Cornwall has doubled since the spring with the number of volunteers increasing by 130 over the same period. In excess of 10,000 letters have been issued to motorists in the same period. The number of Community Speedwatch teams across Devon and Cornwall has increased to 135 and these teams are performing around 200 sessions per month.

In Falmouth, our CSW volunteers have worked tirelessly with partners, Perranarworthal Parish Council, Devon and Cornwall Roads Policing, Cornwall Council and CORMAC in recent years and have been successful in securing the provision of an average speedwatch camera in the Foundry area – the last fatal incident in this area was in 2019. My thanks go once again to our volunteers who have enabled this to happen.

With the support of the Vision Zero partnership additional capacity is being delivered by recruiting an additional CSW Co-ordinator based in Exeter and two Administrators. The Force also intends to hold events in February 2022 to bring CSW volunteers together with specialist policing colleagues to learn more around how they work as part of a larger team to achieve our ambitions around casualty reduction.

3. Connected

New Tri-Service Safety Officers in Cornwall

Seven new Tri-Service Safety Officers are now on duty in Cornish towns and villages to respond to emergency incidents. The Tri-Service Safety Officer (TSSO) role is unique to Cornwall. First piloted with just one officer in 2014, the innovative model has proven a huge success. With the addition of the seven recruits, there will now be 13 TSSOs working in communities across the Duchy.

The officers, who wear grey uniforms while on duty, respond to 999 emergency calls as a firefighter on behalf of Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS), and a Community 1st Responder on behalf of the South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SWASFT). They also deal with non-immediate Devon and Cornwall Police community safety matters and work alongside Cornwall Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Team to manage issues within the communities they serve. TSSOs are jointly funded by CFRS, SWASFT and Devon and Cornwall Police.

For the first time, TSSOs will be based in Helston, Callington and Torpoint. The remaining officers are stationed in Bude, Liskeard, Looe/Polruan, Lostwithiel, Fowey, St Dennis, Perranporth, Hayle, St Ives and St Just.

I was delighted to attend these passing out parades along with the Chief Constable, Cornwall's Chief Fire Officer, the Cornwall County Commander from South Western Ambulance Service and the Leader of Cornwall Council.

Councillor Advocate Update

Our OPCC Councillor Advocates are members of local authorities in Devon, Cornwall or the Isles of Scilly who agree to receive regular updates from the OPCC and are entitled to regular meetings with their neighbourhood policing teams.

I am pleased to report that the number of councillors subscribed to the scheme has increased by

approximately 30 since the July meeting of the Police and Crime Panel and now stands at 364 members.

A number of our Councillor Advocates have expressed a desire to develop their understanding of Devon and Cornwall Police 101 and 999 contact centre operations. As such my office is working with the force to arrange tours of the Exeter contact centre during November 2021.

Celebrating the voices and experience of the community

Last year we all had to work differently, and although I and my team continued our engagement activities in covid-safe ways such as online events, I was not able to bring my Councillor Advocates and Volunteers together for face-to-face events and seminars as we had in previous years. This year I have been pleased to be able to deliver an in person event to celebrate the contribution of the wonderful volunteers on November 8, 2021.

I attended this event with my team and the Deputy Chief Constable, as an opportunity to thank councillor advocates, scrutiny board members and independent custody visitors for their contribution towards building safer communities through the pandemic. There were also stands and representatives from organisations including Community Speedwatch, Vision Zero South West and the Devon and Cornwall Police Cyber Protect team to improve volunteers' knowledge of available services.

4. National Updates

Budget Announcement

On the 27th October the Chancellor announced his budget. The headlines for policing nationally are:

- £4.2bn additional spending for Home Office over the parliament.
- Police and Crime Commissioners to get a £10 precept flexibility over the spending review period.
- An additional £42m will be given to the police for new programmes that reduce crime and drugs misuse
- An additional sum of £540m will be given to the police to complete the recruitment of the final 8,000 officers

It is too early to assess the implications of the totality of the budget announcements yet, and more information will be provided to the Police and Crime Panel at its February meeting.

Home Office's PCC Review

The Panel received a report at its September 2021 meeting on Part 2 of the Government's Review of the role of Police and Crime Commissioners.

The Home Office is now considering the responses to the review and it is anticipated that they will report to government in November 2021. As Vice Chair of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners I am a member of the Home Office's PCC Review Advisory Board which will be assisting the Home Office in preparing its final recommendations on the review.

Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill

The Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill completed its passage through the House of

Commons in June 2021 and was introduced into the House of Lords on 2nd July. The Bill moved to Committee Stage in the House of Lords on 20th October 2021. It is currently expected that the Bill will receive Royal Assent in early 2022.

Implementation of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021

In April 2021 the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 received Royal Assent and passed into law following its consideration by Parliament. The Home Office has published a commencement schedule for the provisions of the Act which are regularly updated [Domestic Abuse Act 2021 commencement schedule - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/96421/domestic-abuse-act-2021-commencement-schedule.pdf). Whilst some provisions came into effect immediately upon Royal Assent the majority of provisions will be implemented over a longer time period. Policing, local authorities and criminal justice agencies are currently working locally and nationally to prepare for the full implementation of the legislation.

Some of the key provisions of the Bill are already in effect or will come into effect on 1st November, including:

- New statutory definitions of ‘domestic abuse’ and ‘personal connection’ (however the extension to include children is not expected to come into force until January 2022)
- The Statutory Office of the Domestic Abuse Commissioner
- Requirement on local authorities to provide support services for all victims of domestic abuse within safe accommodation
- Establishment by local authorities of local Domestic Abuse Partnership Boards and the creation of a local Domestic Abuse Strategy
- Requirement for local authority policies on homelessness to assign victims of domestic abuse a priority status
- New criminal offence relating to threats to disclose sexual photos or films to cause distress
- Clarification that consent to serious harm for sexual gratification is not a defence.

Other provisions that are expected to come into force in the first half of 2022 include:

- New criminal offences of:
 - controlling or coercive behaviour in an intimate or family relationship
 - strangulation or suffocation
- Application of special measures within the court for victims of domestic abuse (like the measures currently available to victims of sexual offences)
- Prohibition on cross examination in civil and family proceedings

There are some measures within the Act which will take considerably longer to come into effect, for example the new Domestic Abuse Protection Notices and Domestic Abuse Prevention Orders which will replace the existing Domestic Violence Prevention Orders are not expected to come into effect until early 2023.

Firearms Licensing

The National Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC), of which I am the Vice-Chair, has undertaken a public survey looking at potential changes to the licensing of firearms and shotguns in England and Wales. I have worked closely with other Police and Crime Commissioners around the UK to make sure the public’s voice is heard and to hear all from sides including people who are, or have previously been, a registered firearms licence or shotgun certificate holder. The

survey closed on 20th October and the results are currently being analysed, but there is a good participation rate from Devon and Cornwall.

The Home Office has also currently reviewed arrangements for the licensing of guns and introduced new guidance from 1st November to be followed by all police forces.

Recent HMICFRS Inspection Reports

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) has published the following reports since the last Police and Crime Panel meeting:

[Police response to violence against women and girls: Final inspection report](#)

As part of the response to the murder of Sarah Everard, the Home Secretary commissioned HMICFRS to inspect how effectively the police respond to violence against women and girls (VAWG) offences. These are violent high-harm crimes that disproportionately affect women and girls, such as domestic abuse, sexual violence, stalking and female genital mutilation. This final report sets out findings and recommendations from this inspection and builds on the findings from the interim report published on 7th July 2021 which was highlighted to the Panel in September. The findings included:

- HMICFRS have found that the police had made vast improvements in the response to VAWG over the last decade, including better identification of repeat victims and improved safeguarding measures.
- HMICFRS also found several areas where the police need to improve, including grave concerns about the number of VAWG cases closed without charge, and major gaps in the data recorded on VAWG offences.
- HMICFRS are extremely concerned that a large proportion of VAWG offences are closed by the police as requiring no further action, with either outcome 15 (evidential difficulties) or outcome 16 (victim does not support further action).
- HMICFRS have made several recommendations for immediate improvements to police practices and has concluded that the police cannot tackle VAWG alone and that the whole system including policing, criminal justice, local authorities, health, and education must take a fundamentally new approach.
- HMICFRS have said that the Government should consider legislating to create a new statutory duty for all partner agencies to work together to protect women and girls, similar to the existing framework for child protection.

The report made a number of overarching recommendations for police forces a specific recommendation to Chief Constables to review and ensure that there are consistently high standards in their forces' responses to violence against women and girls and should be supported in doing so by national standards and data.

I will be publishing my formal response to this report and recommendations on the OPCC website within the required deadline by mid November 2021.



Alison Hernandez

Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

Contact for further information:

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Report prepared on 3rd November 2021



Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel

12th November 2021

Serious Violence Prevention Partnership: *Creating safer futures in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly*

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This paper provides an update to the Police and Crime Panel on the activity being delivered by the Serious Violence Prevention Programme launched in 2020 by the Commissioner and the Chief Constable.

2. Background

- 2.1 In February 2020, the Commissioner and the Chief Constable announced a new preventative approach to tackling serious violence in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. Supported by an annual investment of £1 million for four years the new Serious Violence Prevention Partnership takes a public health approach to preventing and tackling the forms of violence which are most evident across the region and in our communities.

3. Progress of the Serious Violence Prevention Partnership

- 3.1 The overarching vision set for the Partnership is: ***Violence is not inevitable. The Serious Violence Prevention Partnership will focus on breaking the cycle of violence in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.***
- 3.2 A summary of the key progress and achievements of the partnership to date are set out in the brochure attached to this report. The Partnership commenced its work in autumn 2020 with an initial focus on detailed and expert analysis of the types of violence most prevalent in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly to steer and guide the partnership's focus, and ensure that activity is targeted and evidence based. The programme has worked with Crest Advisory, a leading crime and justice consultancy, to carry out this analysis.
- 3.3 The attached document highlights the key achievements to date of the Partnership which are focused on working with young people in order to break the cycle of violence within our communities, in particular through:



- *Commissioning innovative services* like the U+ Programme in Cornwall which in its pilot phase is working with over 100 young people on the verge of becoming involved in disruptive and harmful anti-social behaviour and the deployment by Shekinah/Make Amends of two Restorative Justice Family Workers who will work, through restorative family conferences, with at least 40 eligible families per year.
 - *Enabling criminal justice partners to enhance their focus on early intervention*, for example by providing funding to Youth Offending Teams across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly to increase the use of Out of Court Disposals with eligible young people and by providing additional support to Plymouth Youth Offending Team for speech and language therapy services with young people.
 - *Supporting the adoption of early intervention and prevention approaches* such as the expansion of the Turning Corners Youth Violence Project in Teignbridge and the South Hams and the piloting of sport based diversionary initiatives with Street Games in Plymouth.
- 3.4 The Partnership will continue to work closely with partners from across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly as we work to prepare for the new legislative framework around preventing serious violence which is currently being debated in the Houses of Parliament. A Senior Leaders Event is planned for January 2022 which will bring together strategic leaders from across the peninsula to build on that collaborative approach and explore how we can work better together to prevent serious violence.

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Report prepared on 29th October 2021

SERIOUS VIOLENCE PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP

Creating safer futures in
Devon, Cornwall and the
Isles of Scilly



We must break the cycle of violent crime

Devon and Cornwall is a safe place to live, in fact recorded crime rates indicate that most of us are less likely to be a victim of a violent crime in this force area than the vast majority of other parts of the country.

Sadly this is not true for everyone. Some in our society are at increased risk of being a victim of violence, either in the home by an intimate partner or in a public place. Young people are more likely than most to be victims.

Those who go on to perpetrate crime in later life have been exposed to a range of adversities. They are more likely to have been known to children's social care, to have been excluded from school and to have witnessed domestic abuse as a child.

Much of our violence occurs behind closed doors, but while violence in the home might not be the most visible of crimes, the repercussions are felt by us all. Violence against the person offences are notably higher as a proportion of total crime in Devon and Cornwall compared to other police force areas in the South West.



The effects on our economy, mental health and future are unquestionable. The opportunities to prevent harm are vast.

Last year we established the first Serious Violence Prevention Partnership for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

The NHS, national and local government and policing all have a role to play if we are to take a long-term prevention first approach to change.

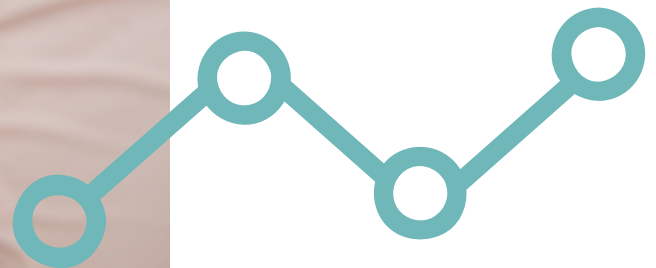
Together though we believe not only that we can break the cycle of violence and offer a brighter future for so many of our residents - we must.

Police and Crime Commissioner **Alison Hernandez** and **Chief Constable** **Shaun Sawyer**

OUR VISION

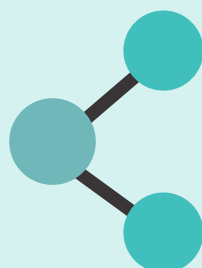
Violence is not inevitable. The Serious Violence Partnership will focus on breaking the cycle of violence in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

9 things we're doing right now to prevent violent crime



1 UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEM: You cannot tackle a problem like serious violence without a thorough understanding of its causes. **Crest Advisory**, a leading crime and justice consultancy, was commissioned to assess the types of violence most prevalent across Devon, Cornwall, and the Isles of Scilly. The team also helped develop the programme's strategy and worked with the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) to analyse homicide and safeguarding reviews and to identify opportunities for improvements across the peninsula.

STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT KEY FINDINGS:



- Reported violence with injury has increased 43% since 2015, despite a very slight decrease in 2019
- The most prevalent violent offence is assault without injury, followed by assault with injury
- There were 16 homicides and 23 attempted murders in 2019/20, around a quarter of which involved a knife
- Robbery offences have increased year on year, with 20% of these offences in the last year involving a knife



2

CHALLENGING AND INSPIRING CHILDREN: The Commissioner and Chief Constable have invested £39,892 in a programme to provide preventative and aspirational youth work for vulnerable young people on the verge of, or beginning to be involved in, disruptive and harmful anti-social behaviour. The six-week **U+ Programme** works with young people referred from secondary schools in Cornwall to provide them with a range of preventative and aspirational experiences and support. The pilot programme will reach 108 young people and will soon expand its support to include young people from pupil referral units and alternative provision. The project is being delivered by the **Dracaena Centre**, a community hub in Falmouth, in partnership with local water sports provider **Elemental UK**.

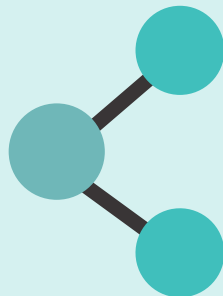


The Commissioner and Chief Constable visit the Dracaena Centre



3

HELPING THE HARMED AND THE HARMER TO RECOVER: Restorative justice gives victims the chance to meet or communicate with their offenders to explain the real impact of the crime – it empowers victims by giving them a voice. Government studies show it delivers a significant reduction in the frequency of reoffending and helps victims of crime to recover more quickly from traumatic incidents. In Devon and Cornwall restorative justice is delivered by the charity **Shekinah** via its **Make Amends** service. The Serious Violence Prevention Programme has funded two Restorative Justice Family Workers who joined the Make Amends team to work within restorative principles using a family group conference with families who want things to change and where the harm is acknowledged, and responsibility accepted. These practitioners will be in place for four years and are co-located with partners across the Police and Youth Offending Teams, working with at least 40 families a year.



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE - THE FACTS:

- Government studies show that restorative justice can reduce reoffending rates by between 14% and 21%
- For every £1 spent on an RJ face-to-face meeting, £8 is saved through reductions in reoffending
- Research shows that 85% of victims who take part in restorative justice found the experience useful and were satisfied with the outcome


4

GIVING CHILDREN A SECOND CHANCE: Out of court disposals can be used for children who have admitted an offence when it is not in the public interest to prosecute. The Serious Violence Prevention Programme has provided £60,000 to be shared between local authority youth offending teams across Devon and Cornwall. This funding will enable youth offending team boards to improve the use of court disposals by at least 10% and lead to better outcomes for young people. It will do this by reducing the number of decisions made by a single agency, meaning more opportunities to identify and solve problems will be explored.



5

GETTING YOUNG PEOPLE BACK ON TRACK: Pathfinder is a solution for offenders which reduces harm and reoffending while holding offenders to account for their actions. The programme holds offenders to account for their behaviour whilst addressing needs that are directly linked to their offending. The Pathfinder manager, keyworkers and support officers work across Devon and Cornwall and in partnership with a wide range of agencies and organisations to tackle the root causes of offending. Pathfinder provides an alternative route from prosecution but is not a soft option. The offender must comply with the contract and the conditions set. The Serious Violence Prevention Programme is funding an expansion of the programme to 18-25 year olds with an extended period of engagement for care leavers across Devon and Cornwall.

A close-up photograph of a person's mouth and hand. The person's lips are slightly parted, and their hand is visible near their chin, with fingers slightly curled. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin and the color of the lips.

6 INVESTING IN SPEAKING SKILLS: Speech, language and communication needs are often called the invisible or hidden disabilities because they are often not visible or obvious. As a result, their significance is often overlooked. Plymouth's youth offending team will receive extra funding from the Serious Violence Prevention Programme to increase its **Speech and Language Therapy** (SALT) provision.

The funding will also enable the youth offending service to update their communication materials so it can speak to its average youth offender. These offenders have the average reading age of a nine year old. The Police and Crime Commissioner is also providing funding to support an academic evaluation by Plymouth University which can serve as a model for best practice for youth offending teams across the country.

COMMUNICATION BREAKDOWN - the challenges experienced by some of our young people:

- Difficulty understanding spoken words and using language to communicate
- Difficulties remembering and recalling information accurately
- Difficulty understanding commonly used legal vocabulary, for example; liable, remorse, reparation, threatening or victim. These difficulties have prevented effective access to the legal and court system
- Difficulties in listening and understanding
- Difficulties sequencing information to tell a story
- Difficulty using abstract language (e.g. idioms, metaphors).
- Difficulties staying on topic
- Understanding non-verbal communication and relating to others in socially acceptable ways
- Difficulty expressing feelings and emotions in an appropriate way, for example they may use aggressive behaviour, instead of words, to express themselves

8

PREVENTING CRIMINALS EXPLOITING AT RISK CHILDREN: Stopping young people from getting involved in criminality, and offering constructive alternatives, offers a huge opportunity to break the cycle of violent crime. The **Turning Corners** project is a tried and tested approach involving local authorities, the police, youth workers and parents that will stop young people in Devon becoming involved in violence, anti-social behaviour and crime through early intervention and prevention. The programme, covering Teignbridge and South Hams Districts, will run for four years and will reach over 80 families each year.



TURNING CORNERS WORKS HELPS YOUNG PEOPLE ON THE EDGE OF VIOLENCE THROUGH:

- **Working in partnership with parents:** Where there are concerns about a child at risk of offending behaviour, Turning Corners invites parents to be partners in youth crime prevention by attending support groups. Over 10 weeks parents will work with peers who face similar challenges to identify solutions, needs and where necessary additional one to one specialist support.
- **Smoothing the transition from primary to secondary school:** Changing schools is hard for many children, particularly those already vulnerable and known to social care, police and inclusion teams. Using a screening tool to identify children who face adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), each child in their first three weeks of secondary school will get daily one to one support sessions and support with attendance and behavioural issues until the end of their second year seven term.
- **Meeting young people where they are:** Space Youth Services operates a youth work programme using partner intelligence to engage young people in public spaces. Through building trusted relationships, Space supports young people through signposting to youth centres, council and other quality support, ensuring they access safe spaces. Each year young people come together to reflect and learn on their experiences through an annual residential trip.

9

NURTURING TEAMWORK THROUGH SPORTING

SESSIONS: Plymouth **Street Games** provides free or low-cost sports sessions across the city, opening up a world of vibrant and engaging activities to young people aged from 11 to 25. Young people are identified and referred by a wide range of sport activities from skateboarding to street dance and are able to practice and learn new sports. The project funded through the Serious Violence Prevention Programme places particular emphasis on youth leadership, enabling participants to thrive in an environment focussed on fun, enjoyment and social interaction.



Next steps

Serious Violence Duty

Complimentary to the efforts of the Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly approach, the Serious Violence Duty compels a wide range of partners to work together to tackle serious violence and its causes through a public health approach. Expected to formally commence in July 2022, the duty compels a wide range of partners to work together to tackle serious violence and its causes through taking a public health approach. To help prepare the partnership for the duty the Serious Violence Programme has set up a working group with local authorities to coordinate collective action and activities. The working group will meet at least every quarter.

Executive Leaders Launch Event

The Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner will bring together the partners from across the peninsula to an in-person event in January 2022. The event will prepare senior leaders on the impact of the Serious Violence Duty, formally launch the Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Programme and enable discussion on how to work better together to prevent serious violence in all its forms.

Local Partnership Grants

In the spring, Community Safety Partnerships and Local Authorities will be provided with guidance of grant funding available to support partners to deliver against their serious violence responsibilities and the peninsula strategy. Funding will be available for 2022-23 and 2023-24.

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Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel

12th November 2021

END TO END RAPE REVIEW AND SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

1. Introduction

1.1. As requested by the Police and Crime Panel, this paper provides an update on the End to End Rape Review published by the government in June 2021. It also sets out the actions taken by the Commissioner to support victims of sexual violence through commissioning services and the securing of additional national funding. The paper also provides an overview of the wider national landscape relating to sexual violence and violence against women and girls and the latest comparative data published by the National Rape Monitoring Group on rape offences (for England and Wales and for Devon and Cornwall)

2. The Government's End to End Rape Review (June 2021)

2.1. In June 2021 the government published its End to End Rape Review (the Review). The Review which commenced in March 2019 looked at evidence from across the criminal justice system: from reporting of offences to the police to the outcomes achieved in court. It highlighted that there had been a sharp decrease nationally in the number of prosecutions since 2016-17, that victims felt let down and unsupported by the process and that there was a need for significant changes to improve the investigation and prosecution process and the support provided to victims¹.

2.2. The Review committed the government to 'urgent, sustained change' with an initial ambition to return to 2016 levels. This includes rolling out a new approach to investigations, reducing the number of victims withdrawing from the process, increasing the volume of trials being heard, and putting more rapists behind bars. It sets out a range of actions, some of which are for government while others are for the police, the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and wider partners. The full details of the action plan are set out in the Review (see footnote 1).

2.3. The government has committed to publishing an update every six months on progress in delivering the actions set out in the Review and the first update is expected in

¹ [End-to-End Rape Review Report on Findings and Actions - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/98444/end-to-end-rape-review-report-on-findings-and-actions.pdf)



December 2021. They will also establish performance scorecards to monitor progress against key metrics, including timeliness, quality and victim engagement in each part of the system as well as implementation of the action plan set out in the Review. A monthly Criminal Justice Board Taskforce chaired by the Minister for Crime and Policing will oversee the actions in the Review and drive forward progress.

2.4. The Review has not occurred in a vacuum. There have been two national inspection reports published in the last four months which also set out a series of recommendations for the police and partners to improve their response to rape and serious sexual offences.

- Criminal Justice Joint Inspection of the Police and CPS response to rape (Phase One) was published in July 2021². That report set out a series of findings and recommendations to police forces and the CPS, many of which cover the areas for action identified in the End to End Rape Review. The Commissioner has published her response to that inspection which includes commentary from the Chief Constable regarding the actions he is taking to address the recommendations made by the joint inspectorate³.
- Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) published a report on their thematic inspection of the police response to Violence Against Women and Girls in September 2021⁴. The review was commissioned by the Home Secretary in March 2021 and sets out a series of findings and recommendations on a range of matters including the support given to victims during the process, investigative practices and multi agency working. The Commissioner will publish her response in November.

2.5. In addition to these inspections there has been a significant volume of activity in the national policy landscape over the past six months. This has included the publication of the government's Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy, the continued passage of the Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill through parliament and the forthcoming publication of a draft Victims Law for consultation. Also in January 2021 the National Police Chief's Council and the CPS published a 3 year National Action Plan to improve their response to rape and serious sexual offences. Improvements made under the Review may also be expected to support achievement of many of these wider recommendations/actions and vice versa.

National Rape Monitoring Group Performance Data

2.6. Since 2015/16 there has been a significant rise nationally in the number of rape offences that are reported to the police. This increase is not considered to represent

² [a joint thematic inspection of the police and crown prosecution service's response to rape – phase one: from report to police or cps decision to take no further action \(justiceinspectorates.gov.uk\)](https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/cjsi/reports-and-publications/a-joint-thematic-inspection-of-the-police-and-crown-prosecution-service-s-response-to-rape-phase-one-from-report-to-police-or-cps-decision-to-take-no-further-action/)

³ [a joint thematic inspection of the police and crown prosecution service's response to rape phase one from report to police or cps decision to take no further action.pdf \(devonandcornwall.s3.amazonaws.com\)](https://www.devonandcornwall.s3.amazonaws.com/media/123456789/a-joint-thematic-inspection-of-the-police-and-crown-prosecution-service-s-response-to-rape-phase-one-from-report-to-police-or-cps-decision-to-take-no-further-action.pdf)

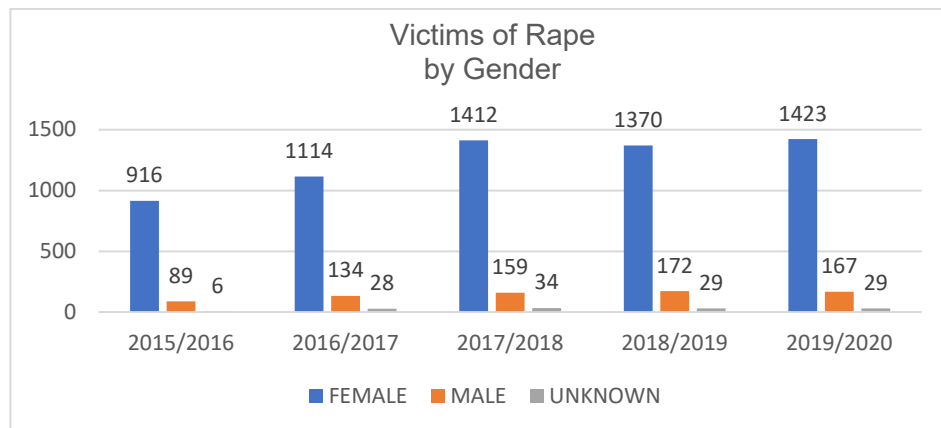
⁴ [police response to violence against women and girls – final inspection report - hmicfrs \(justiceinspectorates.gov.uk\)](https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/reports-and-publications/police-response-to-violence-against-women-and-girls-final-inspection-report/)

a change in prevalence of these offences but a reflection of both increased reporting of offences as well as a significant increase in the reporting of historic offences. In Devon and Cornwall there were almost 600 more reported rape offences in 2019/20 compared to 2015/16.

2.7. The latest comparative data from the National Rape Monitoring Group (published by HMICFRS) on cross system performance covers the period to 31st March 2020⁵.

- Total reported rape offences per 100,000 population:
England and Wales – 56,061 (94.83 per 100,000 people in 2019/20)
Devon and Cornwall – 1618 (91.81 per 100,000 people in 2019/20)
- Cases in which there was a charged/summonsed outcome
England and Wales – 1.4% in 2019/20 from 13.69 in 2015/16
Devon and Cornwall – 1.55% in 2019/20 from 11.81 in 2015/16
- Cases referred to CPS for a charge which result in a charge being made
England and Wales – 45% in 2019/20 from 57% in 2015/16
Devon and Cornwall – 39% in 2019/20 from 53% in 2015/16
- Cases where a suspect is identified but the victim does not support prosecution
England and Wales – 28.68% of cases which are not progressed
Devon and Cornwall – 31.83% of cases which are not progressed

2.8 The below graph shows levels of recorded rape in Devon and Cornwall by gender.



The Commissioners response

2.9 I have been absolutely clear in all my statements on this matter that action by the police and CPS to improve the service provided to victims of rape is critical. The criminal justice system is not supporting victims of these horrific crimes properly and this cannot continue. Too few cases are moving forward to charge and prosecution and it is clear that many victims feel unsupported by the system that is there to help them and bring their attacker to justice. This is a local, regional and national problem and one where policing and criminal justice leaders must work together to deliver the changes that

⁵ [Rape Monitoring Group - HMICFRS \(justiceinspectorates.gov.uk\)](https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/rmgrp/)

victims deserve. It is widely recognised that only a small proportion of rapes are reported to the police, with ONS estimating in 2021 that only around 20% are reported. Improvements must be made if we are to support those victims who have bravely come forward and encourage those who currently choose not to report to do so.

2.10 Within Devon and Cornwall Police the actions being undertaken to improve their response to sexual offences are led by the Assistant Chief Constable for Crime and Vulnerability who also has the wider organisational lead for the full range of activities and actions being taken with regards to Violence Against Women and Girls.

2.11 Devon and Cornwall Police had already begun working with partners and local services to improve the response it provides to all victims of rape and serious sexual offences. This has included the establishment of a Rape and Serious Sexual Offences (RASSO) performance plan with CPS and significant work to build a prosecution team approach and to monitor and scrutinise performance. It has also included and the establishment in late 2020 of a new Strategic Safeguarding Improvement Hub to improve policy, practice and performance across Devon and Cornwall Police. There local joint action plan in place with the CPS includes actions to improve the quality and timeliness of investigations and improvements to the services and support provided to victims during investigation. Since the Review was published the south west forensics collaboration has also secured national funding to enhance its forensic investigation services for rape offences. This successful bid will enable the forensics team to deploy mobile digital examination units which will increase timeliness and reduce the need to take mobile devices away.

2.12 As Commissioner it is my responsibility to hold the Chief Constable to account for the progress that is being made. Locally, through both my work with the Chief Constable at the Policing and Crime Joint Executive and my role as Chair of the Local Criminal Justice Board I will be closely monitoring the progress that is being made.

2.13 The Local Criminal Justice Board will play an important role in steering progress to improve the service to victims of rape and reverse the trends shown in the Review. The Board will also be examining rape and serious sexual offences in its scrutiny of how criminal justice agencies are delivering the Victims Code of Practice and the findings of that scrutiny will be published by my Office to aid transparency.

2.14 As part of my responsibilities for victims I already provide significant investment each year to support victims of sexual violence which are set out in more detail in section 3 of this report. My office is also fully engaged in a range of work with partners to improve the service provided to victims of sexual violence. This includes the Peninsula Wide Sexual Violence and Abuse Board where my office is working alongside local authorities, Devon and Cornwall Police and NHS England. One of the local projects that has been underway for some time is a 'digital walk through' of the criminal justice system for victims, which is also an action in the Review. My office has also just recently completed a ground-breaking piece of work with one of our Lived Experience Advisers

to create a guide for the media on ensuring trauma informed and respectful reporting on sexual offences which will be published in mid-November. Going forward I will be continuing to work closely with our partners, including our new Strategic Partner for Victims (Victim Support) and my own Lived Experience Advisor Scheme as well as the wider sector to further develop our support for victims.

2.15 Improving the supports for victims when crimes occur is critical but we must also have a relentless focus on preventing them from occurring in the first place. To do this we need to focus on perpetrators, on changing attitudes and on working with wider society to encourage and empower people to challenge behaviours. I have made tackling and preventing violence, with a particular focus on sexual violence and domestic abuse one of my key priorities in the new Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025 and will be working closely with partners right across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly as well as with wider regional and national partners to deliver this.

2.16 I will also be continuing to work with local partners to make our public spaces safer through environmental measures, such as improvements to CCTV and street lighting supported by the Safer Streets Fund and to encourage the public to tell us about locations where they feel unsafe through the new pilot StreetSafe tool launched by the government in September. I am delighted that the bids submitted by Plymouth City Council and Cornwall Council with my office to the Safer Streets Fund (VAWG) in summer 2021 were successful. With £512,000 awarded for Plymouth and £33,000 in Falmouth to support investment in infrastructure and educational and behavioural change programmes this brings the total government funding provided in Devon and Cornwall under the Safer Streets Fund over the past two years to over £1.5M.

3. OPCC Commissioned Services for Victims of Sexual Violence

3.1 The Commissioner continues to fund a wide range of support services for victims which are set out annually in the PCC's Commissioning Intentions Plan.

3.2 While the Commissioner has continued to invest in support services there is significant demand and pressure continues to grow on services. Last year 2723 adults and 2034 children in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly received support services through the Ministry of Justice's Victim Services Grant. The coronavirus pandemic has placed ever greater pressure on services, both in terms of impacts on their income but more significantly through the increasing trauma needs of the victims whom they are supporting due to court backlogs and wider delays. The Commissioner and the OPCC have continued to work with local partners to seek to alleviate those strains and to secure emergency funding from government to enable services to continue and adapt.

3.3 In 2021/22 a total of £2,127,935 is being invested in services to support victims of sexual violence within Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, this is an increase of almost £1 million on the previous year. This includes emergency COVID grants and

funding as well as funding from Ministry of Justice victims Services Grant as well as the Commissioners wider policing and crime budget.

Independent Sexual Violence Advocates and SARC Services

3.4 In 2018 the commissioning arrangements in this area changed, with NHS England assuming responsibility for the commissioning of Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) services, while the OPCC assumed the responsibility for the commissioning of ISVA services. Prior to this the funding of both services had been shared between the two organisations. The Commissioner continues to work closely with NHS England to jointly contract manage the ongoing delivery of both services.

3.5 A SARC is a special facility where victims of rape or sexual assault can receive immediate help. It can offer confidential medical, practical and emotional support to people who have been raped or sexually assaulted, including forensic medical examinations. The Devon and Cornwall policing area continues to have three SARCs, these are situated in Truro, Plymouth and Exeter.

3.6 Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVAs) advocate on behalf of victims, providing help and support through the criminal justice system. They provide specialist dedicated support for victims and survivors and are able to liaise directly with the police and provide updates as well as supporting the individual throughout their criminal justice journey. The ISVA service within Devon and Cornwall is delivered by First Light and last year received 1,294 referrals, which was a 12% increase on the previous year. In 2021/22 additional funding from the Ministry of Justice has been secured to increase capacity within the service, with an additional 4 adult ISVAs (including one to support male victims and 1 to support victims with complex needs) as well as 4 children and young person ISVAs within Devon who are focused on non-intimate violence. These additional investments build on additional funding obtained over the previous year to expand the cohort of ISVAs within Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly to provide specialist support to men and boys, people from the LGBTQ community and children.

Specialist Victim Support Services

3.7 The Commissioner funds a network of community therapeutic support services for adults and children who are survivors of sexual violence through the Ministry of Justice's Victim Services Grant. In 2021/22 over £550,000 has been invested in this network, including £142,834 in bespoke services for victims of child sexual abuse. In addition, emergency COVID funding of £106,172 has been secured from the Ministry of Justice this year to provide additional support to providers. The network of organisations supported by this funding includes Devon Rape Crisis, CLEAR, The Women's Centre Cornwall, the Children's Society and Operation Emotion which provides support for male victims of sexual violence.

3.8 The funding provided annually by the Commissioner to Community Safety Partnerships

(CSPs) also directly supports victims of sexual violence and this year over £650,000 of that funding has been directed to sexual violence support services.

3.9 As the Panel is aware in April 2021 the Commissioner entered into a new 10 year strategic partnership with Victim Support who will deliver victims services across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. Under this innovative partnership Victim Support will commission and manage support services for both sexual violence and domestic violence from April 2022 and the team are working closely with the OPCC and the sector to put in a place a broad package of support for the coming years.

3.10 Victims can sometimes have to wait long periods of time to access therapeutic services due to high levels of demand. Last year there was an average of 409 people waiting for therapy as a result of rape or sexual abuse and a median wait time of 114 days. Recognising the impact that these waits can have on victims the Commissioner has allocated an additional £200,000 this year to support a new project developed with partners across the peninsula. 'Operation No Waiting' was launched in October 2021 and its objective is the eradication of waiting lists for therapeutic services for victims of childhood and adult sexual violence and improving the ongoing availability of therapeutic services for individuals who need it. The project includes a range of operational activities including the sharing of best practice on how to reduce waiting times for therapy and the prototyping of new support approaches that help reduce the problem of waiting lists (self help tools, group support, peer support etc).

Other support services and initiatives

3.11 *Pathfinder Project:* The OPCC have also been working with partners locally to support their application to the NHS England and NHS Improvement 'Pathfinder' Programme which will provide enhanced trauma-informed mental health support for sexual abuse victims and survivors with the most complex needs. Devon and Cornwall have been successful in that application and have been awarded £1M over the next three years to improve the pathway of adult survivors of sexual violence into mental health support services.

4. Wider National Policy Landscape

- HM Government's Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy. In July 2021 the government published its Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy. This followed a re-opening of the government's Call for Evidence in the aftermath of the tragic murder of Sarah Everard in March 2021. The Strategy set out a range of actions already being taken and further actions which were needed. The Strategy is focused on: prioritising prevention; supporting victims; pursuing perpetrators; and strengthening the system. A new National VAWG Taskforce will oversee progress, supported by a National Policing Lead for VAWG and chaired by the Home Secretary.

- Beating Crime Plan. In July 2021 the government published its Beating Crime Plan which sets out its national priorities for policing which includes a focus on tackling serious violence and on sexual violence and wider hidden harms.
- New Victims Law. The government has stated its intention to consult this year on the content of a new Victims Law. It will consult on proposals for placing the new Victims Code of Practice 2021 on a statutory footing – further enshrining the twelve victim rights set out in the code. It will also seek views on the provision of community based services for victims of sexual offences and domestic violence as well as proposals to establish a statutory requirement and framework for ISVA services.
- Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill. The Bill is currently being debated in the House of Lords and is expected to receive Royal Assent in early 2022. It contains a number of provisions related to sexual violence, including higher sentences for certain offences, new rules on digital investigation and a duty to prevent serious violence.
- Home Affairs Select Committee. The Committee is currently conducting an inquiry into the investigation and prosecution of rape which launched in April 2021⁶.
- NPCC/CPS Joint Rape and Serious Sexual Offences Action Plan⁷. Published in January 2021 the 3 year national plan sets out how the police and the CPS will work together to improve their joint response. It sets out five areas of action: supporting victims, improving casework quality/progression; enhancing digital capability and disclosure; staff training/development; and stakeholder engagement and transparency.

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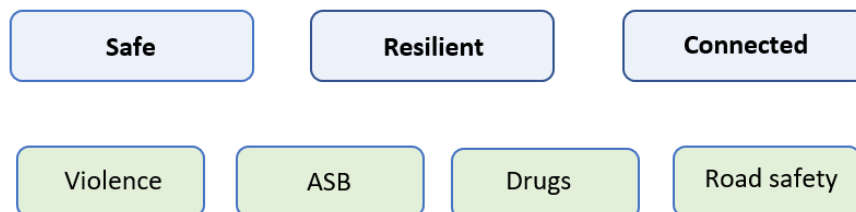
Report prepared on 29th October 2021

⁶ [Investigation and prosecution of rape - Committees - UK Parliament](#)

⁷ [Police-CPS Joint National RASSO \(Rape and Serious Sexual Offences\) Action Plan 2021 | The Crown Prosecution Service](#)

**Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel****12th November 2021****MONITORING THE PROGRESS OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 2021-25****1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to outline how the Commissioner will monitor performance and measure the success of the Police and Crime Plan 2021-25. This includes details of key performance indicators included in the Plan.
- 1.2 The strategic objectives underpinning the Police and Crime Plan 2021-25 is a vision for 'safe', 'resilient' and 'connected' communities. This is accompanied by a focus on four community priorities, including violence, anti-social behaviour (ASB), drugs and road safety.



- 1.3 In order to monitor the progress of these objectives, the Commissioner has identified a suite of performance metrics. These include the National Crime and Policing Measures, as well as local indicators for each priority area.
- 1.4 The metrics are published in the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan and are also outlined in section 3. This is accompanied by a brief explanation of current trends, which are compared against baseline data.
- 1.5 For the majority of measures, the baseline year is the 12 months to June 2019. This aligns with the baseline year used by the Government in their monitoring of the National Crime and Policing Measures. Where it is not possible to align data to this same timeframe, baselines for each metric will be specified.
- 1.6 Crime statistics from the Office of the National Statistics (ONS) and the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) are based upon the most recent publication at the time the Police and Crime Panel papers were prepared.

2. National Crime and Policing Measures

- 2.1 In Spring 2021 the government set out a series six National Policing and Crime Measures (National Measures) which have been developed to support the government's strategic aim of 'relentlessly cutting crime'.
- 2.2 Six priority areas are identified in the National Measures:
- Reducing murder and other homicides.
 - Reducing serious violence.
 - Disrupting drugs supply and county lines.
 - Reducing neighbourhood crime.
 - Tackling cyber-crime.
 - Improving satisfaction among victims – with a focus on victims of domestic abuse.
- 2.3 In May 2021 the government proposed a series of amendments to the statutory instrument (the Specified Information Order 2011) which sets out transparency requirements for Police and Crime Commissioners which relate to the new measures. The legislative changes require all Police and Crime Commissioners to publish a statement regarding the contribution of their police force against the six national priorities and to update this on a quarterly basis following the publication of Office of National Statistics data.
- 2.4 The Home Office guidance identifies a number of matters to be included in the statement on performance against the National Measures, including:
- An explanation of which of the National Measures are assessed to be applicable and which are not applicable in the local context, including the reasons for that assessment.
 - Reflections on the local police force's performance and how they have contributed towards the delivery of the National Measures, including contextual information that might help explain that contribution.
 - A summary of planned action for the next quarter to drive the local police force's performance against applicable measures.
- 2.5 The statutory instrument requires that Police and Crime Commissioners should publish their first statement at the same time as the Police and Crime Plan.
- 2.6 In order to measure progress against the six national priorities, the Government have provided a list of metrics and data sources which should be used by

National Crime and Policing Measures		
<u>Reduce murder and other homicide:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homicide levels 	<u>Reduce neighbourhood crime:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighbourhood crime levels 	<u>Reduce serious violence:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hospital admissions for u25s for assault with a sharp object Offences involving the discharge of a firearm
<u>Disrupt drugs supply and county lines:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug-related homicides Police referrals into drug treatment 	<u>Tackle cyber crime:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage (%) of businesses experiencing a cyber breach or attack Confidence in the law enforcement response to cyber crime 	<u>Improve satisfaction amongst victims – with a focus on Domestic Abuse:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage (%) of domestic abuse victims who were satisfied with the whole experience Percentage (%) of all victims who were satisfied with the whole experience

Commissioners to report against. The six national priorities and corresponding metrics are outlined in the table below:

- 2.7 In line with guidance outlined by the Specified Information Order, the Commissioner has considered the Force's performance against the National Crime and Policing Measures into the Police and Crime Plan scorecard and incorporated a narrative on this performance into the performance monitoring of the overall Police and Crime Plan progress report.
- 2.8 The national Measures have been incorporated into the Commissioners suite of metrics and can be identified in **bold** in **section 3** of this report.
- 2.9 For some of the national measures local proxy data is not available meaning active monitoring is not currently possible. The Commissioner however has included a narrative on these in this report. These measures are identified in italics in the table at **section 3**.
- 2.10 The Commissioner will ensure, in line with the requirements outlined by the Specified Information Order 2011, that updates against the national measures are published quarterly.

3. Summary of measures used to monitor the Police and Crime Plan

Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025 Scorecard	
<u>Violence</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homicides - National measure Hospital admissions of under 25s for assault with a sharp object - National measure Offences involving discharge of a firearm - National measure Violent Crime (all) Violent Crime (Domestic Violence) Victim satisfaction (Domestic Violence) - National measure 	<u>ASB</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recorded number of ASB incidents Recorded number of public order incidents
<u>Drugs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug possession offences Drug trafficking offences Organised drug disruptions <i>Drug related homicides*</i> National measure <i>Police referrals into drug treatment*</i> National measure 	<u>Road Safety</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Fatal casualties Number of Serious casualties Number of Deaths or serious injuries caused by high risk driving offending behaviour Number of Community Speedwatch Schemes
<u>Safe</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ONS crime rating Victim based reported crime levels Number of Police Officers (Full-time Equivalent) Number of recorded hate crimes Number of neighbourhood crimes - National measure <i>Percentage (%) of businesses experiencing a cyber breach or attack*</i> National measure <i>Confidence in the law enforcement response to cyber crime*</i> National measure 	
<u>Resilient</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of young people who are victims of crime Additional funding brought into Devon and Cornwall by OPCC Overall victim satisfaction - National measure 	
<u>Connected</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of customer contact points open to the public Number of customer contacts (999, 101, online) 101 and 999 call wait times (P1 & P2) Levels of public confidence in the Police Number of reports made to Devon and Cornwall Police from Crime Stoppers 	

* local proxy data unavailable for publication at this time as outlined in narrative below

4. Violence

- *Number of homicides*

In the 12 months to June 2021, 15 homicides were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This is five fewer homicides than reported in the 12 months to June 2019. According to the latest data published by the ONS, the rate of homicide per 1000 in the population is 1.8% lower in Devon and Cornwall (0.01) when compared to the average for the South West region.

However, since the reporting of these figures it should be noted that a significant incident resulted in the tragic deaths of 5 individuals through homicide, and the subsequent death of the perpetrator in Keyham, Plymouth in August 2021.

- *Number of hospital admissions of under 25's for assault with a sharp object*

In the 12 months to March 2021, 15 hospital admissions of under 25's for assaults with a sharp object were recorded in Devon and Cornwall. This is the same figure which was recorded two years prior (in the 12 months to March 2019) and therefore denotes a stable trend.

- *Number of offences involving the discharge of a firearm*

In the 12 months to June 2021, 80 offences involving the discharge of a firearm were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This equates to 14 more offences when compared to the 12 months to June 2019, where 66 offences were recorded. This increase is due to a high number of discharges recorded in July and August 2020.

The Force and OPCC are working together to reduce Serious Violence through the Serious Violence Prevention Programme with a separate report on recent activity provided to the Police and Crime Panel November 2021. In the next quarter the Serious Violence Programme will be funding an expansion of the Pathfinder programme to 18-25 year olds, with an extended period of engagement for care leavers across Devon and Cornwall, and a planned executive leaders and partners event in will take place January 2022 to prepare for the new Serious Violence Duty.

- *Number of violent offences*

In the 12 months to August 2021, 30,030 violent offences were recorded across Devon and Cornwall (including violence with and without injury). This is a 2.7% decrease when compared to the 12 months to June 2019, where 30,866 offences were recorded. According to the latest data published by the ONS, the rate of violence in Devon and Cornwall per 1000 population (16.1) is 16.6% lower than the national rate (19.3).

- *Number of violent offences related to domestic abuse (DA)*

In the 12 months to August 2021, 11,119 violent offences related to DA were recorded in Devon and Cornwall (including violence with and without injury). This is a 2.4% increase on the number of offences recorded in the 12 months to June 2019 (10,859). Around a third of all violent crime in Devon and Cornwall is flagged as

being related to DA.

- *Percentage (%) of domestic abuse (DA) victims satisfied with the whole experience*

In the 12 months to June 2021, it was reported by Devon and Cornwall Police that 85.2% of DA victims were satisfied with the service they experienced from the Force. There has been no significant change when compared to the 12 months to June 2019 and this therefore suggests a stable trend.

In response to violence locally, the Force continues to work with the Commissioner to deliver the joint Serious Violence Programme work, alongside plans to address Violence Against Women and Girls.

The Commissioner notes the Force's focus on bringing offenders to justice and successful convictions. In each case of homicide, a review is undertaken to identify potential causation factors and inform prevention work across the Force. An independent review of Domestic Homicide Reviews is being undertaken by Crest linked to the Serious Violence Programme and this will inform future activity.

The Commissioner also notes that the Force continue to work with the OPCC to improve the experience of Domestic Abuse victims, including recent activity to improve systems to provide replacement phones for vulnerable victims where their phone has been seized or damaged as a result of a criminal offence, creating, training, co-ordinating and maintaining a network of supporters to assist and guide victims of Domestic Abuse and funding an out-of-hours telephone support service for victims of Domestic Abuse.

Additional activity planned in the next quarter includes the development of a Homicide Prevention Strategy, a review of national 'best practice' to inform the continued development of the Serious Violence Programme and further work with commissioned support services to offer support services to victims of Domestic Abuse crime at the initial call to service.

5. Anti-social behaviour (ASB)

- *Number of ASB incidents*

In the 12 months to August 2021, 38,208 ASB incidents were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This equates to 718 fewer incidents (-2%) when compared to the baseline year (the year to June 2019). The majority of ASB incidents recorded by the police relate to rowdy/inconsiderate behaviour and rowdy nuisance neighbours.

- *Number of public order offences*

In the year to August 2021, 7,896 public order offences were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This equates to a 12% increase (+835) in the number of recorded

offences when compared to the baseline year (the 12 months to June 2019). The most recent ONS release shows that the rate of public order offences in Devon and Cornwall is the lowest in the South West region.

6. Drugs

- *Number of offences related to the possession of drugs*

In the 12 months to August 2021, 3,389 possession of drug offences were recorded in Devon and Cornwall. This is a 2% increase on the number of offences recorded in the 12 months to June 2019 (3,315).

- *Number of drug trafficking offences*

In the 12 months to August 2021, 1,364 drug trafficking offences were recorded in Devon and Cornwall. This is a 39% increase on the number of offences recorded in the 12 months to June 2019 (981). The increasing trend is likely due to a change in process; since April 2020 Devon and Cornwall Police now record drug seizures made by the Border Force.

- *Number of organised drug disruptions*

In the 12 months to June 2021, Devon and Cornwall Police carried out 300 disruptions which had links to County Lines and Dangerous Drugs Networks. This is a 334% increase (+231) on the figure reported in the 12 months to June 2020 (69 disruptions). This is likely to be reflective of increased policing activity related to drug operations throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

- *Drug related homicides*
- *Police referrals into drug treatment*

The publication of drug related homicides in Devon and Cornwall is not considered to be appropriate in the local context, as the low numbers of homicides may result in identifiable data. The data on Police referrals into drug treatment is not currently available. Suitable proxy measures are currently being considered.

The Commissioner notes that the Force are continuing to strengthen their use of evidence and data mapping in relation to Organised Crime Groups, which feeds into regional and local tasking meetings. The Force are also actively undertaking proactive work to tackle organised crime, drugs threats and county lines.

Planned Police action for the next quarter includes the introduction of a new Strategic Force Tasking and Coordinating Group which will be scrutinising plans to tackle key threats including county lines and taking a 4P (Prevent, Protect, Prepare, Pursue) approach, prevention activity ongoing on emerging threats such as drink spiking via injection and detailed analysis of the impact on disruption of drugs and county lines.

7. **Road safety**

- *Number of fatal casualties*

In the 12 months to August 2021, 46 people were killed in road traffic collisions on Devon and Cornwall's roads. This is a small decrease (-11) on the number reported in June 2019 (57).

- *Number of seriously injured casualties*

In the 12 months to August 2021, 696 people were seriously injured in road traffic collisions on Devon and Cornwall's roads. This is a 18% decrease when compared to the figure reported in June 2019 (847). In 2020, a greater number of people were killed or seriously injured per 100,000 in the population on Devon and Cornwall's roads (38) when compared to the average for the South West region (33).

- *Number of offences related to death or serious injury caused by high risk driving offending behaviour*

In the 12 months to August 2021, there were 31 recorded offences related to death or serious injury caused by unlawful driving. This is a small decrease (-5) on the 36 offences that were reported two years prior (the 12 months to June 2019).

- *Number of Community Speed Watch (CSW) schemes*

CSW allows members of the public to monitor traffic speeds in their local areas. In the 12 months to September 2021, there were 42 active Speed Watch groups. The Commissioner will continue to monitor the number of Speed Watch groups enrolled on the scheme to help understand community resilience to road safety.

8. **Safe**

- *Devon and Cornwall's overall crime rate - Office for National Statistics (ONS)*

The rate of crime in Devon and Cornwall in the 12 months to March 2021 was 51.0 crimes per 1000 population. This equates to 90,404 recorded crimes across the force area in the 12-month period and represents a 9.6% decrease compared to the previous year. The 51.0 crimes per 1000 population is also 1.2 times lower than the rate reported 2 years prior (61.4). According to the latest ONS release, Devon and Cornwall has the 3rd lowest rate of overall crime in the country, the second lowest rate of overall crime in the South West region, and its crime rate sits well below the national average of 76.9 crimes per 1000 population.

- *Number of victim-based crimes*

In total, 79,779 victim-based crimes were recorded in the 12 months to August 2021. This represents a 12.4% decrease compared to 12 months to June 2019, equating to 11,263 fewer crimes. The latest national data shows that Devon and Cornwall has the third lowest victim-based crime rate in England and Wales, and the second lowest rate in the South West region. The victim-based crime rate in Devon and Cornwall is 13.0% less than the regional level.

- *Number of Police Officers*

The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) Police Officers employed by Devon and Cornwall Police in the 12 months to June 2021 was 3,273. This is an increase of 9.8% - or 291 additional officers - when compared to the baseline year of the 12 months to March 2019, at which there were 2,982 FTE Officers. This increase has been funded by local council tax precept plus additional funding through the Government's target to employ an additional 20,000 Police Officers nationally through Operation Uplift.

- *Number of recorded hate crimes*

In total, 2,200 hate crimes were recorded in Devon and Cornwall in the 12 months to August 2021. Compared with the baseline year of the 12 months to June 2019, this equates to a 24.7% increase in offences (+436 crimes). The increase in Police recorded hate crime can partly be attributed to better recording methods and raised awareness in reporting.

- *Number of neighbourhood crimes*

Neighbourhood crime is defined using the following offence types; burglary dwelling, burglary non-dwelling, robbery, theft of and theft from a vehicle and theft from a person. In the 12 months to June 2021, 7,612 neighbourhood crimes were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This represents a 39.6% decrease (-4,987) when compared to the 12 months to June 2019, where 12,599 crimes were recorded. This decreasing trend is likely, in part, to be reflective of the COVID-19 lockdown restrictions and reductions in social movement.

The Commissioner notes that the Force has adopted a Prevention approach and are working with Integrated Offender Management to adopt a public health approach to mitigate the causes of prolific offenders undertaking crime. Crime patterns are reviewed through Force Tasking and appropriate prevention and problem-solving activity is instigated.

Additional planned action for the next quarter includes introducing "problem orientated" policing using data and intelligence to respond to crime, with specialist problem solvers and Crime Prevention Officers targeting activity in response to data and delivering the Neighbourhood Policing Strategy, with refined tasking and uplift investment to enable neighbourhood officers to focus on community priorities.

- *Percentage (%) of businesses experiencing a cyber breach or attack**
- *Confidence in the law enforcement response to cyber-crime**

No local data regarding cyber-crime is currently available for publication. Nationally, however, it is thought that cyber-crime is on the rise. In the 12 months to March 2021, it is estimated that there were 1.7 million computer misuse offences. This is an 85% increase compared with the year ending March 2019.

The Force has a dedicated lead for tackling cyber-crime. Alongside this the Force has a dedicated lead for digital media investigations, driving an improvement plan regards our response to cyber and digital crimes. The focus remains on training, policy, IT, communications, and performance.

9. Resilient

- *Number of young victims*

In the 12 months to June 2021, there were 8,299 victims under the age of 18. This equates to 393 fewer victims (-4.5%) when compared to the 12 months to June 2019 where there were 8,692 victims under the age of 18.

- *The amount (£) of funding brought into Devon and Cornwall by the OPCC*

Monitoring the amount (£) of funding brought into Devon and Cornwall by the OPCC will also help the Commissioner to understand how the Police and Crime Plan is helping build resilience to crime. The Commissioner will begin to monitor this from March 2021.

- *The percentage (%) of victims that were satisfied with the overall service they received from Devon and Cornwall Police*

In the 12 months to June 2021, 74.1% of victims of crime were satisfied with the overall service they received from Devon and Cornwall Police. This is 2.1% higher than the baseline figure of 72.0%, as reported in the 12 months to June 2019. Devon and Cornwall Police have worked closely with the OPCC to continue to improve support for victims and improve satisfaction.

In the next quarter the Force will work with support services and the victim care unit to produce a video which can be shown to victims of abuse at the initial police response in order to offer an early support provision and encourage victim uptake of commissioned support services.

10. Connected

- *Number of customer contact points open to the public*

Monitoring the number of customer contact points open to the public – for instance, via front desks – will be one way of helping the Commissioner to evaluate connectivity. As of October 2021, there were 11 customer contact points open to the public across Devon and Cornwall.

- *Number of Customer Contacts received*

In the 12 months to July 2021 Devon and Cornwall Police's Contact Centre received just over 961,000 contacts. This consisted of the following activity:

- 999 Calls: 266,899
- 101 Calls: 487,486
- 101 Emails & Texts: 148,355

- 101 Webchat: 58,532

This represents a 3.3% decrease, or 32,574 fewer contacts received, compared to the baseline year of the 12 months to June 2019. A reduction in the number of 101 calls received has contributed to the decrease. All other contact types, including 999 emergency calls and 101 alternative contact methods (including Email, Text and Webchat) have increased.

Although 101 non-emergency demand has decreased overall since the baseline year (likely to be linked to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic), the use of 101 alternative contact methods have significantly increased. The number of emails and texts received has increased by 56.5% - or 53,581 more emails and texts received - and the number of Webchats received has increased by 602.2% - or 50,042 more Webchats received. The increase in email and text volumes is not unexpected given the communications from Devon and Cornwall Police and the OPCC to encourage use of these alternative contact methods.

- *Average 101 wait time - P1 line*

P1 (or Priority 1) non-emergency calls are those calls that are identified as high priority by the 101 Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system. These include calls relating to domestic abuse, sexual offences, hate crime, missing persons, and road safety. In the year to July 2021, the average wait time on the P1 line was 6 minutes and 17 seconds. This represents an increase of 1 minute 14 seconds compared to the 12 months to July 2020. More calls have been received and answered in the latest period; however, the call abandonment rate is higher.

- *Average 101 wait time – P2 line*

P2 calls relate to all 101 calls that are not identified through the IVR system as being high priority. In the 12 months to July 2021, the average wait time on the P2 line was 15 minutes 35 seconds. This represents a decrease of 6 minutes 27 seconds when compared to the 12 months to July 2020. Fewer calls have been received and answered in the last year and the call abandonment rate is similar to the baseline year.

- *Average wait time for 999 calls*

The average answer time for 999 calls has increased by 5 seconds in the 12 months to July 2021 when compared to two years prior, taking total wait time to 13 seconds. It is thought that an increase in the average 999 call handling time over this period could be a contributing factor. For instance, in the last year, the average call handling time for 999 calls, which includes average talk time and the average post handling time, was 9 minutes 34 seconds, an increase of 2 minutes 26 seconds when compared with the baseline year (the 12 months to June 2019). The observed increase in call handling time is considered to be because of the growing complexity of calls received by Contact Officers and subsequently the need for enhanced risk assessments and safeguarding procedures to be carried out.

- *Percentage (%) of the public that state, taking everything into account, they have confidence in the police in Devon and Cornwall*

According to the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW), in the 12 months to March 2020, 77.5% of Devon and Cornwall's residents agreed with the statement, that 'taking everything into account, I have confidence in the police in this area'. This represents a 1.3% increase on the figure reported in the 12 months to March 2019 (76.2%). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the suspension of face-to-face surveying by the CSEW, a more recent position for the year to March 2021 is not available. However, recent national surveying by the CSEW indicates that 86% of respondents were either 'fairly' or 'very satisfied' with the way that police in their local area were responding to the pandemic.

- *Number of reports made to Devon and Cornwall Police from Crime Stoppers*

Crime Stoppers is a national charity which allows people to call anonymously to report information about crime. Any information which may be deemed useful to the Police is passed on by Crime Stoppers to the respective local police force. In the 12 months to March 2021, 3,891 reports were disseminated to Devon and Cornwall Police from Crime Stoppers. This is a 14% increase (+505) on the number of reports disseminated in the 12 months to March 2019.

Contact for further information

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Report prepared 3rd November 2021



DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

12th November 2021

COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER RECEIVED UNDER THE POLICE REFORM AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT

1. The number of complaints received and handled since the PCC's re-election on 11th May 2021 are shown in the table below. This paper covers the period up to 3rd November 2021.
2. One formal complaint has been made against the Police and Crime Commissioner in the last period (8th September – 3rd November 2021).
3. The Chief Executive is currently looking into the complainant's concerns and will be making recommendations to the Chair in due course.

Dates	Complaints received	Number of Complaint recorded	Number of Complaints unrecorded	Total	Complaints forwarded to IOPC by the OPCC
11 th May – 7 th September 2021	0	0	0	0	0
8 th September – 3 rd November 2021	1	1	0	1	0
Grand total				1	0

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Report prepared 3rd November 2021



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