

**Devon and Cornwall Police and  
Crime Panel**

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## **DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

Friday 28 January 2022

10.30 am

The Council Chamber, 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).

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**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 - 12)**

To sign and confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 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](mailto:democratic.support@plymouth.gov.uk)

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

### **5. Precept Proposal for 2022/23, Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan Update: (Pages 13 - 100)**

### **6. Police and Crime Plan 2021 - 2025 Scorecard: (Pages 101 - 118)**

### **7. Police and Crime Commissioners Update: (Pages 119 - 130)**

### **8. Domestic Abuse Act: (Pages 131 - 136)**

### **9. Safer Streets Fund: (Pages 137 - 144)**

### **10. Complaints Against the Police and Crime Commissioner Received Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act: (Pages 145 - 146)**

### **11. Work Programme: (Pages 147 - 148)**



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**Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel****Friday 12 November 2021****PRESENT:**

Councillor Croad, in the Chair.

Councillor Towill, Vice Chair.

Councillors Atiya-Alla, Biederman, Cheadle, Chopak, Fitter, Hackett, Hopwood, Knowles, Mrs Pengelly, Salmon, Tilbey and Wright.

Also in attendance: Alison Hernandez (Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner), Frances Hughes (Chief Executive for Devon and Cornwall Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner), Nicola Allen (Treasurer and Chief Finance Officer for the Devon and Cornwall Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner), Andrew Loton (Head of Governance, Performance and Risk) and Jake Metcalfe (Democratic Advisor).

The meeting started at 10:00 and finished at 12:13.

*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.*

**64. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting that took place on 17 September 2021 were signed as a true and accurate record subject to the following change:

Minute 59 - Councillor Hackett raised concerns in relation to dangerous driving on roads in Devon just outside of the DMP area which had caused fatalities in riders and horses.

**65. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**66. Public Questions**

**Q1 - In light of the murder of Sarah Everard, and subsequent conviction and sentencing of Wayne Couzens, a serving police officer, will the Chief Constable guarantee that all officers will undertake a psychological profile test to reduce the risk of rogue individuals presenting a risk to the public?**

The Police and Crime Commissioner needed to be assured that the Chief Constable was delivering the highest moral and ethical standards. The Chief Constable was responsible for the employment of all police officers and police staff.

The Chief Constable applied the national vetting process in accordance with the national Authorised Professional Practice, issued by the College of Policing. Those processes were subject to a National thematic inspection by HMICFRS at the direction of the Home Secretary. There were no requirements for a psychological test.

All police officers worked in a position of trust and as such every recruit went through a thorough vetting stage as part of their application process. This had been a nationally prescribed process and all Forces followed the same guidance. This included disclosing any convictions, motoring offences, outstanding charges or court summons and details about their family and friends for example, to ensure that they aren't vulnerable to extortion or blackmail. The vetting process also assessed all applicants against the College of Policing's Code of Ethics, which considered a wide range of factors.

For clarity there were 3 different types of vetting: Police Vetting, National Security Vetting and Non Police Personnel Vetting.

The police vetting processes were most relevant to the question. There were two levels of police vetting, a basic standard called Recruitment Vetting (RV) and an enhanced level called Management Vetting (MV).

RV - This was the standard level of vetting required by every member of the force whether they were a police officer, member of police staff, special constable or PCSO. No one could join the force until they had been vetted to that level. The checks conducted were comprehensive and included Force intelligence systems, address, I/D, finance, relatives and social network sites. The vetting unit conducted all necessary enquiries, conducted a vetting interview where necessary and the force vetting manager or Force Vetting officers decided whether clearance was granted or refused. Officers and members of staff required this level of vetting throughout their service with the force.

MV - MV is a misleading national term, it meant an enhanced level of police vetting and was nothing to do with management but was required for officers or staff in 'designated posts'. These were posts judged by the Force Vetting Manager to be particularly sensitive or critical for a number of reasons e.g. members of Special Branch, firearm officers, officers and staff involved in major crime investigation or covert police work. The vetting unit conducted all MV vetting enquiries which were extensive and included family members, all relevant databases, financial checks and a compulsory vetting interview. Once granted a MV clearance was subject to annual reviews and aftercare procedures. Persons in those 'designated posts' who were refused or had their MV clearance removed would not continue in that post but that was a rare occurrence.

Additional levels of vetting existed for specialist areas of work such as counterterrorism work, firearms roles etc. Regardless of role, all police officers were subject to a regular review of their vetting.

In Devon and Cornwall the Chief Constable introduced a "Bad Apple" scheme some years ago. All police officers and staff had a responsibility to report suspected

corrupt, dishonest or unethical behaviour. It is recognised however, that it takes a great deal of courage for an individual to come forward, particularly when the conduct being reported concerns somebody that they work with. The Bad Apple reporting system was developed to ensure that officers and staff felt that they could report matters in confidence to the anti-corruption unit within Devon and Cornwall Police. This was part of wider counter corruption processes.

**Q2 - Will you commit to implementing a policy of suspending officers immediately and appropriately charging them pending investigation if an allegation of inappropriate sexual behaviour is made?**

The way in which police officer misconduct was managed had been detailed in legislation and associated statutory guidance. The level of misconduct would determine the processes followed.

An officer accused of an offence could only be charged once sufficient evidence had been available as per existing criminal justice processes.

The Police and Crime Commissioners office supported this process and appointed Legally Qualified Chairs where the misconduct hearing panel was convened.

A police misconduct hearing panel would likely be arranged to hear allegations of serious cases of misconduct by police officers or special constables. The maximum outcome at a hearing would be dismissal from the police service without notice. Cases would include for example, allegations of criminal acts, serious road traffic matters such as drink/driving and other serious breaches of the standards of professional behaviour expected of police officers, such as neglect of duty. Misconduct hearings could also be convened to consider the final stages of action under performance regulations, where police officers can be dismissed for unsatisfactory performance or attendance.

67. **Commissioner's Update Report**

Alison Hernandez, Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner provided an update to the panel and highlighted the following key points:

- a) The plan focused on four priorities; serious violence; anti-social behaviour; road safety and drugs;
- b) The Street Safe online tool allowed residents of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly to go onto a map and pinpoint where they did not feel safe. It was requested to Councillors in attendance at the Panel to promote this with their residents to enable a true and accurate picture of places where people did not feel safe;
- c) 81 ideas from the public had been submitted to help achieve Vision Zero and how the public could keep themselves safe on the roads. These ideas were being triaged and then put forward to the Vision Zero Board meeting;

- d) A member of the public submitted video footage of dangerous driving to the Police as part of Operation Snap. This submission was the first that involved dangerous driving around a horse. The Commissioner encouraged road users to submit footage where dangerous driving had occurred;
- e) Funding had been secured in relation to the Plymouth Recovery from the tragic events in Keyham. Funding would be received from government, however the Police had already been spending the money to avoid delay. £514,092 would be received for Community Policing; £308,360 received for Safer Places which would build on the Safer Streets scheme; £182,721 would be received for support for victims;
- f) A passing out parade for tri-service officers had taken place. This had been the first time in which the posts were open to the public for recruitment;
- g) A volunteer event had taken place in November at St Mellion. Councillor advocates, independent custody visitors, lived experienced volunteers, community speedwatch and neighbourhood watch had all been invited to the event which had been attended by the Deputy Chief Constable. The Commissioner thanked all volunteers for their continued service to the communities of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

Nicola Allen, Treasurer and Chief Finance Officer advised Panel of some budget announcements and made the following points:

- a) The Spending Review had been announced on 27 October 2021, Devon and Cornwall had been given indication of three years of funding;
- b) The review showed a commitment for the final recruitment of 8,000 officers as part of the national uplift. Money had been allocated for programmes to reduce crime and economic crime;
- c) Further money had been allocated from the Ministry of Justice to deal with the backlog within Crown Courts and Civil Courts as a result of already having a backlog and then the subsequent pressures on this due to the pandemic. More money would be allocated to Victims Support and specific reference had been made to sexual violence and domestic abuse funding for victims;
- d) Within the Law Office department, more money would be allocated to the Crown Prosecution Service.

Members discussed:

- a) Over a four year period, Police and Crime Commissioners had been given additional flexibilities over and above those given to others. For the three years of the CSR, Police and Crime

Commissioners had been given the ability to go up to £10 per Band D equivalent property before the requirement to go to a referendum. The impact for Devon and Cornwall meant that £10 on a Band D property was 4.23% additional on their Band D equivalent. This would come back to the Panel in January for consideration and recommendations from the Commissioner;

- b) Councillor Croad welcomed the announcement and implementation of the Domestic Abuse Act and the funding given;
- c) The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) were awaiting the findings of the Police and Crime Commissioners review which would determine whether the role extends to Police, Crime and Fire. It was acknowledged that this would present additional difficulties for the South West due to differing County makeups;
- d) Councillor Hackett queried whether the residents given dashcams from the OPCC understood what they were for in being proactive in submitting evidence of dangerous drivers, or were the dashcams provided for their own personal use should they be involved in a collision. The dashcams provided an opportunity for those given the devices to supply video evidence of dangerous driving on the roads;
- e) The 'No Excuse' campaign led by the Police on a weekend in Devon had led to 84 tickets being issued with cars seized that shouldn't have been on the road;
- f) The Vision Zero Partnership was an ambitious target that Government had not signed up to. The Commissioner had been delighted with the comments raised by Councillor Hackett in relation to Mike Joyce and the Councillor Advocate Scheme;
- g) The additional Police Officers as part of the National uplift would be allocated to areas based on threat, risk and harm. The Commissioner would be scrutinising the allocation of Neighbourhood Beat Managers as part of the visibility side of policing;
- h) The Commissioner had taken personal oversight of the Police resourcing challenges in Torbay and South Devon command unit. The Chief Constable had visited Torquay and met with the Leader of the Council in order to meet with residents and business owners to understand the impact that Crime had been having in the area. The Police and Crime Commissioner advised Panel that it was offered to the Chief Constable funding for overtime on crime centre policing in the interim before the uplift of officers. The Chief Constable had committed to visiting Paignton and Brixham before Christmas, for a walk through to understand the issues affecting

Torbay;

- i) It was acknowledged that there had been an issue with the Police force in relation to interim posts, which had been affected by promotions from within the force. The Commissioner had discussions with the Chief Constable with the possibility of using recently retired officers in a mentoring and buddying scheme for those staff in temporary posts;
- j) Hate crime reporting would be published as a critical indicator. The Commissioner would look to include this information within the performance reports and would have a rolling three month update as opposed to an annual report which would not have provided clear context;
- k) The Government had changed statutory guidance to include evidence from a medical practitioner in relation to firearms licences. There had been concerns raised in relation to the pressures that this would place on the National Health Service and in particular General Practitioners. The Commissioner clarified that this would be for the government to negotiate at a national level;
- l) It was acknowledged that there had been challenges with maintaining a number of police officers on the streets when someone had required custody in North Devon areas. The Commissioner also raised that there had been a bigger challenge in respect of places of safety;
- m) Concerns were expressed in relation to the problems of housing for domestic abuse survivors in terms of the quality and location of the housing. The Commissioner highlighted a scheme that had been trialled in that prison inmates would construct a house under Probation and at the end of the construction, the accommodation would be provided to a vulnerable person. Local Authorities could take up this scheme if they identified some land and put the proposals forward to the Commissioner. The scheme would see a vulnerable person housed and purposeful work undertaken by a prison inmate;
- n) At the Vision Zero Board meeting, Cornwall County Council brought forward their 20mph policy which allowed residents to put forward a request for a 20mph speed limit on their roads. Cornwall Council would endeavour to fulfil their request. This Policy had been put to the other authorities to identify if this could be a Policy that could be implemented across the Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly region.

The Panel noted the report.

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

Alison Hernandez, Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner provided an update to the panel and highlighted the following key points:

- a) The Government funded violence reduction units, however Devon and Cornwall were not part of this funding due to not meeting the threshold which focussed on the number of incidences at A&E with a bladed weapon. The outcome had resulted in the force using money from the uplift in Council Tax a few years ago to fund its own serious violence prevention programme;
- b) The first 12 months of the programme was to understand the scale and range of violence across the peninsula. Data had been collated from various partners, not just the Police force, this resulted in a strategic needs assessment which had been the basis going forward. The Commissioner advised Panel that Local Authority partners were happy that the Police force were able to carry out this research with them and for them, to enable them to deliver on their serious violence duty;
- c) The main aim for the programme had been to break the cycle of violence; it was recognised that if a child had been brought up in a violent household they were more likely to also become a violent person. Operation Encompass had been set up to advise schools before 9am, where a child had been a witness to or been in a household that had a domestic incident the night before;
- d) The Programme had 9 areas of focus to tackle serious violence and the Commissioner advised that herself and the Chief Constable had visited the Dracaena Centre, a community hub in Falmouth. The programme had been funding a six week programme which would work with young people referred from secondary schools in Cornwall to provide them with a range of preventative and aspirational experiences and support;
- e) The Serious Violence Prevention programme had provided funding to Plymouth's Youth Offending service to increase Speech and Language Therapy provision. It was recognised that the average youth offender had a reading age of a nine year old and would find it difficult to express themselves in order to turn their lives around;
- f) Plymouth Street Games provided free or low cost sports sessions across the city to young people aged 11 to 25. The Project would place particular emphasis on youth leadership to enable participants to thrive in an environment focussed on fun, enjoyment and social interaction;
- g) Local Authority's would be invited to a large event in January 2022 with the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner; to launch how they would work together to deliver the serious violence duty;

Members discussed:

- a) A few schemes had been funded by the programme with the aim of scaling this up across the peninsula. If the Street Games initiative in Plymouth proved to be a success this would be rolled out across the peninsula.

The Panel noted the report.

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

Alison Hernandez, Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner provided an update to the panel and highlighted the following key points:

- a) The Government had apologised for poor performance with regards to rape convictions and more must be done;
- b) The report showed £2.1 million commissioning for sexual violence support services this year through a combination of local funding, Ministry of Justice funding and money from the government. When combined through the OPCC's investments on domestic abuse services and government funding on Safer Streets a total of £3.9 million a year had been invested to tackle sexual violence and domestic abuse as well as supporting victims of those crimes;
- c) The Commissioner advised that she was committed to ensuring the right actions were taking place in Devon and Cornwall and to work on preventing future offences occurring;
- d) The South West Forensics team had been given a new mobile unit which would enable the team to travel to victims to inspect digital devices;
- e) The Commissioner highlighted that the Panel are able to scrutinise her in respect of the strategic direction, influence of partners, robustly holding the Chief Constable to account for Police performance and the commissioning of high quality of support for victims;
- f) The Commissioner highlighted to Panel members that Devon and Cornwall is the only Police force outside of the force in London that has a 10 year contract for victim support. This would provide stability and clarity for victims in Devon and Cornwall.



Members discussed:

- a) The figure of 23,400 victims was not wholly correct and that at least 50% of cases go unreported. The Panel would want an update every six months following on from the government's commitment to publishing their update every six months on their review;
- b) The need for more perpetrator programmes to tackle prevention of further incidents occurring;
- c) The requirement to bring down the median wait time of 114 days for victims waiting for therapy as a result of rape and sexual abuse. The Chair, Councillor Croad requested a KPI on this in order to monitor the progress of reducing the wait time;
- d) Victims could refer themselves online to Sexual assault referral centres and would be forensically examined right away without having to report the incident to Police. Victims would have access to independent sexual advisors through the process. If a victim was an historic reporter they would be able to go to a SARC and receive support from the independent sexual advisors;
- e) It was recognised that due to the critical importance of this area that services did not duplicate work and collaboration where possible should be sought;
- f) The Commissioner suggested to the Panel that they could be invited to a SARC to see and understand the facilities and services. It was misrepresented that the centres were unwelcoming places for victims and it would be helpful to replace this with an accurate representation that they were welcoming places;
- g) The government conducted a national survey last year in which victims of sexual offences were asked of their lived experiences. The results had not been published for the Commissioner to report to Panel members.

The Panel noted the report.

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

Alison Hernandez, Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner provided an update to the panel and members discussed:

- a) The need to monitor and reduce the wait times for the 101 and 999 telephone numbers. It was recognised that continuous failure to reduce the time could impact people reporting crime to the Police. The Chief Constable was aware that this is an area of focus during this term of office. Some Councillors had the opportunity to take part in a scrutiny of the 101 and 999 service with issues such as technical, staffing and the increase in 999 calls having had an impact on the service;

- b) There had been an increase in staffing of 22 people as part of the Council Tax uplift for the control room however the impact had not been effective in reducing call times. The Commissioner encouraged members of the public to report crimes via the online web portal or through the online web chat, if their preferred method of calling 101 for non-urgent crimes had been delayed;
- c) The Councillor Advocate scheme had been set up to provide access to local policing. If a resident had a local issue this could be raised through their Councillor who had privileged access to their local inspector;
- d) Local Police stations would be opened to the public and have a Police Enquiry Officer. The opening times would not include a 24 hours a day 7 days a week service but could be flexible for the Force to achieve. It was highlighted by the Commissioner that the opening times would need to be highly advertised to the public to enable a success in the implementation of the project;
- e) Devon and Cornwall Police service had signed up to the single online home national police website. The implementation of the website would be shared to Councillors and would provide users a better experience to deal with their enquiries.

Panel noted the report.

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

Frances Hughes, Chief Executive for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner provided an update to members which advised:

- a) One complaint had been received in the last reporting period and the Office had been completing background work in relation to the complaint. The complaint had been delegated to Frances Hughes from the Chair and Frances would be in consultation with the Chair with regards to the outcome.

72. **Work Programme - to follow**

Members discussed the work programme and agreed to:

- a) Replace the wording from PCSO teams to Neighbourhood teams;
- b) Merge Public Contact, 101 and re-opening of front desks;
- c) Add County Lines;
- d) Merge Councillor Advocate and Youth Projects;

- e) Change 'Culture of Policing' to 'Police Legitimacy';
- f) Remove Public Health Commissioning;

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**THE OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME  
COMMISSIONER FOR DEVON, CORNWALL AND THE  
ISLES OF SCILLY**

FOI Open

**SAFE, RESILIENT AND CONNECTED  
COMMUNITIES**

Police and Crime Panel Meeting  
Friday 28th January 2022  
Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner

**Proposed Precept, Budget and Medium Term  
Financial Strategy (MTFS)  
2022/23 - 2025/26**

**1. Summary**

- 1.1. This report considers the future four-year financial position for the Police and Crime Commissioner (the Commissioner) and Chief Constable and presents the Commissioner's council tax precept recommendation for 2022/23 for consideration by the Police and Crime Panel.
- 1.2. My proposal is for a total precept increase of £10 this year which equates to a council tax Band D of £246.56. This represents an increase of 4.23% in the Band D equivalent for the police element of the council tax for the 2022/23 financial year. It is my intention to increase the available resources to policing and this will allow for investment in 2022/23. Currently Band D households pay £23.66 a month over 10 months (if they pay monthly) this will rise to £24.66.
- 1.3. Items for the Police and Crime Panel to note:
  - The Commissioning Intentions Plan attached as Appendix 3.
  - The Reserves Strategy, Treasury Management Strategy and the Capital Strategy are published online to enhance transparency
- 1.4. The increase in funding that I intend to make available to the Chief Constable through the precept (as outlined in the MTFS) is specifically to fund the ongoing police officer uplift



programme and enable it to be sustained for the long term. This will enable Devon and Cornwall Police to strengthen, stabilise and sustain their current position and utilise the opportunity given with this precept flexibility to fulfil the recruitment trajectory already underway which enables the continued delivery of a progressive policing service. I know from the public feedback I receive that the visibility of policing and public confidence in policing is vitally important and this budget proposal will keep police officer numbers high. The letter from the Chief Constable attached at Appendix 2 sets out this proposal and shows where other internal management processes will allow for changes in investment in services including public contact.

- 1.5. The Police and Crime Plan is a requirement of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (PRSR). The strategy used to produce this MTFS is my Police and Crime Plan for 2021-2025 which provides continuity from my previous approach 'Safe, resilient and connected communities'. The Plan has four priority areas: anti-social behaviour, drugs, road safety and preventing serious violence and was considered by this Panel in September and November 2021.
- 1.6. This report has been produced in consultation with the Chief Constable.

## **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1. That the Police and Crime Panel accept the council tax precept proposal and do not exercise a veto.

## EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW BY THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

### 3. Introduction

- 3.1. This is the first budget of my new term of office. I am fortunate that despite the challenges of the continuing pandemic, the Government has recognised the need to maintain investment in policing and for the first time given policing a three year indicative budget settlement. Within this settlement is the continuation of the investment in the uplift of police officers, but to make this affordable in future years it recognises that additional council tax investment is required from local areas. The government has given Police and Crime Commissioners the flexibility to raise their council tax precept by a maximum of £10 per year (on a Band D property) to be able to achieve this and accommodate the challenges of inflation, staffing costs and overall supply chain challenges which are essential to maintain the basic fabric of the service.
- 3.2. In order to deliver my new Police and Crime Plan 2021-25 I have consolidated my priorities into four main priority areas: Anti-social behaviour, drugs, road safety and violence. These areas of focus were developed following extensive public engagement. I am already actively working with the Chief Constable on developing approaches to these areas over the coming months and years. Likewise, I am pleased to be working in partnership with the other four Police and Crime Commissioners in the South West and their respective Chief Constables as we improve the coordination of our approach to disrupt drug supply.
- 3.3. We continue to live and work in extraordinary times. We are yet to fully re-emerge from the global pandemic, and yet we have achieved some extraordinary things this year. However, the climate of public confidence in policing has never been more challenged with national and international events continuing to impact on local policing.
- 3.4. COVID enforcement remains with the police. The national restrictions moved policing into a position where it has stepped in for health protection purposes and away from its original intention. The continual updates of what the rules are for the public has in many ways confused them about the role and remit of the police. National events affecting policing have further called into question the legitimacy of the police and level of public confidence. The police and its partners have been reassessing their approach to Violence Against Women and Girls, and the Government themselves apologised to the victims of rape and sexual assault following the end to end rape review published in the summer which demonstrated that victims of rape were being let down by the criminal justice system.
- 3.5. In June 2021 the whole world was watching as Cornwall hosted the G7 summit, supported by mutual aid officers from across the UK policing family. This was policed in an exceptional way, with very limited disorder associated with the entire event. My thanks to the Chief Constable, Shaun Sawyer and in particular the event commander ACC Glen Mayhew for their leadership and resilience in delivering this world class event. Volunteers who support my office and in particular the Independent Custody Visitors played a crucial role in preparing for this event in the assurance of detainees welfare.

- 3.6. Sadly, in August 2021 Devon and Cornwall was again in the public eye when five individuals were tragically shot dead in Plymouth and two others injured. Again, the response from the Force and partners across the public, private and community and voluntary sector was exceptional. Whilst the families and community in Plymouth continue to heal, we will be alongside them.
- 3.7. My thanks also to Deputy Chief Constable Paul Netherton OBE who retired from Devon and Cornwall Police in April 2021, and for the positive legacy he leaves across UK policing particularly in the field of civil contingencies and national emergency preparedness.
- 3.8. We continue to live in unprecedented times. There remain uncertainties about how we will emerge from the pandemic; the impact that this will have had on our young people; the length of time it will take to reduce the backlogs within the criminal justice system; and the impact that this will have on victims and witnesses. I am seeking to ensure that the resources available to the Chief Constable remain appropriate for the challenges ahead and allow us to collectively help keep our communities safe and improve public confidence.
- 3.9. My OPCC Team have likewise continued to work extremely hard throughout the year. They have increased the funding coming into Devon and Cornwall for safer streets by £1.5 Million; provided an outstanding response to support the recovery processes as a result of the tragedies in Plymouth; developed a new strategic partnership with Victim Support; created opportunities for youth support and additional street marshal capacity during the summer months; as well as maintaining business as usual throughout the year whilst working through a very challenging environment.
- 3.10. I have been at the centre of the debate around the future role of Commissioners as part of the Governments review of Police and Crime Commissioners through my national role with the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners. Commissioners have already made lasting changes in their local communities in cutting crime, supporting victims, and mobilising local partnerships to keep people safe. Commissioners have built on the long traditions of British policing 'by consent' and established their role as 'the people's voice' in policing in the past decade, with a mandate to speak up for their communities and ensure that the public have a direct voice on policing priorities. Commissioners now have a strong track record of delivering innovation and building partnerships and with further levers and powers and greater accountability, Commissioners can deliver a step change for criminal justice, alongside policing and community safety. I look forward to sharing the outcomes of the review once the government makes them available.
- 3.11. The Chief Constable and I remain concerned about the levels of violence and its impact on our communities. Our work on gaining deeper understanding of this issue and beginning to commission a range of services to directly support communities and prevent violence at an early stage is gaining momentum. We are working with partners from across Devon and Cornwall as they rise to the challenge of implementing the new national serious violence duty, with strong foundations delivered by the programme of work to date from which to build.



- 3.12. The 2022/23 Police Finance Settlement was announced on 16th December 2021. I have run an online budget engagement process on the totality of the budget from 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2021 to 9th January 2022, and for the first time this year also sought qualitative feedback in the form of focus groups, one in Devon and one in Cornwall, and I am one of the only Commissioners in the country to take this approach. In addition, I invited all Police and Crime Panel members to an informal briefing on the totality of the budget settlement in January.
- 3.13. In summary, there were 5,316 responses to the on-line survey. What is clear from the results is that confidence and visibility are the two key areas which concern the public. This was echoed in the focus group sessions. The full results of this budget engagement are shown in appendix 5 to this report.
- 3.14. The government settlement will enable Devon and Cornwall's Police strength to continue its planned trajectory to increase by a further 188 sworn officers in the next financial year, taking total officer numbers to 3,610. That is 686 more than were in force when I set by first budget in 2017.
- 3.15. I have agreed a robust budget with the Chief Constable which provides a realignment of the budget into key areas of policing to accommodate the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan during 2022.
- 3.16. The threats to our safety have changed dramatically in recent years. Those living in rural areas are particularly at risk from crimes like drug dealing. Neighbourhood policing provides vital intelligence to disrupt this activity, protecting those vulnerable to exploitation and providing community reassurance.
- 3.17. The public have supported me, through council tax, to fund 216 extra officers over my period in office, and the national uplift announced by the Government will add many more officers to their ranks. By the end of March 2023, Devon and Cornwall Police will have recruited the additional 188 uplift in officers announced by the Government.
- 3.18. Police officer numbers are only part of the solution. As a large rural, urban and coastal force we do have significant challenges. We police a force area of which just 10% lies within six miles of another force area, we police six inhabited islands, a coastline of 730 miles and a rural road network that would stretch from London to Sydney. We are second only to London for the number of visitors we get to our area, putting a massive strain on resources between April and September.
- 3.19. With the support of the Police and Crime Panel I have actively pursued opportunities to address our summer challenge through funding solutions. Until these are resolved my office and Devon and Cornwall Police have focussed on innovative solutions to these challenges. We were the first force to have a drone team, Incident Resolution Centres were set up to increase the chances of successful prosecutions and we have created the first Community Responders – firefighters with full police powers - in the country. We pioneered COVID marshals in twenty-one areas in the summer 2020 and continued this support into priority areas during summer 2021 as part of wider partnership activity in local areas.
- 3.20. Any increase in council tax is not a step I take lightly. For a Band D property, the policing element of the Council Tax is approximately 12%. When added to the

funding that UK policing receives from central government this allows me to support the Chief Constable to operate a 24/7, 365 day service to protect the public. This year the government have given policing an indicative 3 year settlement, which means that we have a high degree of certainty about what our budget envelope will be until the end of 2024/25. I do not wish to allow policing and public safety to slip backwards, so I am again asking the public to invest in the areas which they have already told me are their priorities. I have listened to these and incorporated them into my Police and Crime Plan. With the public's continued support I can ensure that the Chief Constable has sufficient resources to maintain Devon and Cornwall Police's position.

## **4. Overall position**

- 4.1. In November 2021 the ONS data confirmed that Devon and Cornwall continues to be one of the safest places in the country.
- 4.2. Total crime recorded between July 2020 and June 2021 decreased by 0.6% from the previous year based on the quarterly release of the annual crime figures by the Office of National Statistics. Police recorded crime data also shows a decrease of 3.1% for victim-based crime recorded between July 2020 and June 2021. One of the categories with the largest reduction is 'all burglary', which fell by 26.1%. This category is made up of 'residential burglary' which saw a decrease of 22.7% and 'non-residential burglary' which saw a decrease of 28.9%. This is likely due to restrictions posed by the pandemic which meant that more people were in their homes.
- 4.3. The statistics show some increases in recorded crime for the year. Public order offences increased by 15.7%, which is likely due to the easing of restrictions from 2020 with the reopening of the night-time economy (NTE).
- 4.4. There was an increase of 5.9% in 'violence against a person' and an increase of 11.4% for sexual offences in the police force area. There was also an increase in drug offences between 2020 and 2021 of 13.7%. Possession of weapons also saw a recorded increase of 15.4%. These increases reflect an increase in proactive policing and new requirements to record offences identified by the Border Force.
- 4.5. This expected rise in some reports of crime is likely due to the easing of restrictions after the Coronavirus pandemic during 2020 which saw the country in lockdown.
- 4.6. While I am reassured to see that the force area is one of the safest in the country it is vital that we do not shy away from potential rises in recorded crime that are the result of proactive operations and campaigns such as those that encourage the reporting of sexual abuse and violence. If we are to truly become the safest force area in England and Wales it is vital that our residents and visitors report crime, and we have a true picture of offending and harm in society.
- 4.7. This year new national performance measures for policing have been developed. These National Crime and Policing Measures will help focus effort on key national priorities, allow performance to be measured and help to demonstrate value for money in policing. Alongside the performance metrics that I have included in my Police and Crime Plan there will be a greater level of transparency on police performance than ever before.

## **5. Investments**

- 5.1. As I have discussed with the Panel previously, crime only accounts for 16% of the incidents reported to police and in Devon and Cornwall. Officers deal with more missing

people and people suffering mental illness than most other force areas, and it is important that we recognise that.

- 5.2. This has been reinforced by the public feedback in the 101 non-emergency telephone service which resulted in my instigation of a formal scrutiny in this area of work in Autumn 2020. It is clear that the Force have not been able to keep pace with the public expectation of this service and although substantial investments have been in this contact service the anticipated improvements have not been realised quickly enough. The public need the police, and their calls for service are not reducing. The Police took 22% more 999 calls in the last year three years.
- 5.3. I am supporting a structured financial approach with the Force to facilitate additional resources to the Chief Constable in the coming year to provide additional capacity into the contact centre.

## 6. Funding

- 6.1. The Government's funding settlement, assuming that Police and Crime Commissioners take advantage of the precept flexibility, will increase the funding available to policing through central grant and the local council tax. As in previous years the settlement comes with very specific conditions which must be met. These include the Police Uplift Programme, an ongoing commitment to drive efficiency, productivity and effectiveness through joint procurement, enhanced productivity using technological solutions and achieving best value on police technology.
- 6.2. I remain frustrated that the increased demands placed on Devon and Cornwall Police by our summer surge have yet to be formally recognised and funded by the government but am hopeful that the Government's levelling up agenda will go some way to giving our peninsula this recognition.

## 7. National Officer Uplift

- 7.1. Despite the COVID restrictions police officer recruitment in Devon and Cornwall has remained strong and in line with the requirements of the additional funding. We now deliver a blended approach to police officer training with innovations in delivery on-line alongside face to face training and testing, we are still actively passing out new officers.
- 7.2. The national budget settlement provides for the recruitment of 8,000 officers by the end of March 2023. This is an uplift to core grant with part (£135m) being ring-fenced and paid to Forces quarterly in arrears subject to progress on the officer uplift. In addition, funding has been made available for Forces to make the relevant infrastructure improvements needed to facilitate the uplift. This element of the funding has been provided in this settlement so that infrastructure changes can be made prior to the recruitment of the officers.
- 7.3. Op Uplift and the increase in officers is a significant change to policing. It is not just about recruiting some more officers. Brand new recruitment regimes have needed to be developed to deliver the new degree apprenticeship, degree holder entry programmes and direct entry detectives. These have had to be further refined to cope with the continuing limitations arising from COVID. Additional officers also mean additional specialist technical support, for example, additional custody capacity, additional legal capacity, additional HR capacity, additional radio capacity, to name but a few. All this takes time and appropriate sequencing so that once officers have completed their training they can integrate into systems, shift patterns and protocols easily.

- 7.4. The effectiveness of policing cannot be solely judged on the number of police officers employed. Policing has a wide range of specialist civilian roles which are essential to deliver high quality policing services. From specialist problem solvers, PCSOs, building surveyors, solicitors and accountants, policing is a business and the success on the front line relies heavily on professional services from across the organisation to tackle crime effectively.

## 8. Investments to date

- 8.1. In the report I prepared for the Police and Crime Panel last year I highlighted my key areas for investment. The progress on these is detailed below, and more detail is provided about the activities undertaken against the overall Police and Crime Plan within the update report and performance report elsewhere on this agenda.
- 8.2. With the support of the community, I have been able to make resources available for an extra 216 officers during my time as the Police and Crime Commissioner. This has now been enhanced with the national uplift in officer numbers which will increase this figure to 3,610 by end March 2023. Our community continue to request increased visibility from policing and this uplift will start to have a visible affect as the new officers complete their training and start operational work.
- 8.3. The migration of staff to the new Exeter Police Station is now complete. This £29m project has been delivered on time and on budget by my office and is one of the most environmentally sustainable buildings completed in England. The building includes a new 40 cell custody centre which is fully operational.
- 8.4. Community engagement and wider connectivity remains at the heart of the policing approach. Despite the challenges of not being able to meet face to face, my team has found alternative ways to engage the public and hear their views on policing and crime. I have been interacting with the public using Facebook Live events, we have recruited a significant number of new Councillor Advocates across the geography and the numbers are now in excess of 370 and we have recommenced face to face engagement where possible. In order to ensure that the public were kept well informed about all the changes during COVID my team also collaborated on a free newspaper with Devon partners which was delivered to all households in Devon. This Devon Together community-focussed publication contained information on local services and people during Covid. It was jointly commissioned by NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group, Devon County Council and my office and won the Chartered Institute of Public Relations' Pride Awards for the South of England.
- 8.5 This year my commissioning intentions plan (2022/23) details the range of commissioning undertaken to support the delivery of the new Police and Crime Plan and associated statutory duties. The five priorities of this commissioning intentions plan are as follows:
- Violence
  - Anti-social behaviour
  - Drugs
  - Road Safety
  - Victim Services
- 8.6 For the financial year 2022/23, the total commissioning budget across the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner is £7,985,039 which works on the assumption that the Ministry of Justice Grant for Victim Services (not released at the time of writing) is the same as the current year. The budget is made up of a £4,140,000 commissioning grant allocated directly by the Commissioner for the purpose of commissioning services for the benefit of

Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, £2,845,039 from the Ministry of Justice Victim Services Grant, which includes the Childhood Sexual Abuse (CSA) and Childhood Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Grant, additional funding for Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVAs), Critical Support Fund for Victims and Keyham Victim Support funding and the continuation of £1,000,000 for the Serious Violence Prevention Programme which was announced in February 2020 by the Chief Constable and I. A full breakdown of the commissioning intentions is shown in appendix 3.

- 8.5. This year we have moved more tangibly into strategic commissioning, with the development of a ten-year strategic partnership with Victim Support. This arrangement ensures the stability of services to victims and the opportunity to partner with specialist services in a way which we could not previously achieve.
- 8.6. Through the support of my office and in partnership with the NHS we have three Sexual Assault Referral Centres – in Exeter, Plymouth and Truro as well as a service to provide victims of sexual assault, both adults and children with the support that they need through the Independent Sexual Violence Advisors.
- 8.7. Those in police custody are also supported through the Independent Custody Visitors Scheme coordinated by the OPCC. Their support remains an invaluable insight into detainees welfare, and the volunteers were an integral part of the business contingency planning for G7 should the custody requirements have exceeded normal business as usual. The evolving picture on risk this year has meant that the scheme has been kept under constant review and during periods where it was not within government guidelines to continue, alternative methods of scrutiny, such as on-line meetings with custody centres have been successfully deployed. I wish to formally record my thanks to the volunteers who undertake the visits for their perseverance and resilience to all the changes that have been put in place during this very challenging year.
- 8.8. When looking at the budget and MTFS for 2022/23 to 2025/26 it is easy to forget what has already been achieved in previous years. The detail about all this work is set out in my Annual Report.
- 8.9. Reserves have reduced over my time in office from £63m to an estimated balance at the end of 2022/23 of £39.7m. It was, and remains, my conscious decision to use those reserves to maximise funding to policing. Full details of the reserves are contained in Appendix 1.
- 8.10. I am keen to only use borrowing where financially appropriate and will continue my structured use of reserves. The choice of funding (i.e. reserves or borrowing) will be made at the point of need taking into account the cost of borrowing and the availability of other funding streams. Despite the discontinuation of the capital grant received by policing I will continue to support the capital programme at the current levels.
- 8.11. I have focused the detail of this four-year budget presentation on 2022/23 although the MTFS has been produced covering a four year period to provide assurance that my proposals are robust and sustainable. In order to limit the amount of technical detail within this report, the appendices contain more information on the budget requirement; the proposed savings to be made; the reserves; and detailed council tax changes within bands.
- 8.12. The Chief Constable's letter is clear that these proposals are essential investment in policing and has stated that this increase will give a budget that allows the force to sustain its strong position and meet the challenges over the next three years.

**Alison Hernandez**  
**Police and Crime Commissioner**  
**January 2022**

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# MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS) AND PRECEPT PROPOSALS

## 1. Introduction

1.1. This report will cover the revenue and capital budgets for 2022/23 together with the projections for 2023/24 to 2025/26. The specific areas that will be covered are the:

- National context.
- Local and regional context and funding levels.
- Council tax levels and assumptions.
- Revenue expenditure.
- Capital programme.
- Reserves.
- Risks.

## 2. National Context

21. On 27th October 2021 the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced the Autumn Budget and Spending Review 2021. The Spending Review 2021 (SR21) covers a three year period, 2022/23 to 2024/25.
22. The provisional Police Settlement was published on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021. The Home Office opted for a provisional settlement rather than proceeding straight to final settlement in order to obtain feedback from stakeholders. The deadline for submissions to the provisional settlement was 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022. This settlement takes place with a backdrop of severe economic difficulties and volatilities due to the ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic.
23. The ministerial statement outlines the national priorities to be supported by the provisional settlement:
  - Maintaining focus on cutting crime to make communities safer.
  - Transparency, governance and accountability in building public confidence in the criminal Justice system.
  - Serious and organised crime.
  - Major law enforcement programmes and other critical national police and law enforcement IT capabilities.
24. The overall funding package provides additional funding to increase investment in the policing system by up to £795m in 2022/23. This level of investment assumes that all Commissioners will maximise council tax flexibility. The provisional settlement headline data includes the following:

- A £550 million increase in core grant funding to Commissioners. This additional funding will support the final year of the Police Uplift Programme and is net of an £80m efficiency target.
  - £135 million of this funding will be ringfenced and allocated according to funding formula shares. In line with the process in 2021/22 this will be paid according to progress on recruitment targets.
  - Up to £246 million additional funding from council tax precept if all Commissioners maximise their precept flexibility. Commissioners have been given the flexibility to increase the precept by up to £10 for a Band D equivalent property.
  - A reinstatement of pay awards affecting Police Officers and Police Staff.
25. The settlement also includes the following:
- Confirmation of the continuation of the pension fund grant agreed in 2019/20 of £143m.
  - An increase and realignment of the funding of national priorities (see table below on the top-slice)
  - Confirmation that capital grant will cease for 2022/23.
26. The settlement represents an average cash increase in total funding for England and Wales of 5.3% between 2021/22 and 2022/23. However, this increase includes funding to cover the increased growth expected as part of the uplift programme.
27. The Capital Grant for Devon and Cornwall will now cease which reduces funding by £296k for 2022/23.
28. The Government expects the police to continue to build on the progress that has been made in terms of efficiency and productivity. The expectations from this settlement are:
- Forces to recruit another 8,000 officers by the end of March 2023 (some of these officers are expected to go into Counter Terrorism Policing, Regional Organised Crime Units (ROCU) and the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau).
  - £80m efficiency savings from across the law enforcement sector. These are expected to be delivered through a combination of improved procurement practises as well as savings in areas such as estates, agile working and shared services. These efficiency savings have already been taken from the grant to be received.



29. As in previous years the overall funding available to the police has been top sliced for central initiatives. The funding level of the top slice has increased by £340.2m (33%) from 2021/22. The effects of top slicing at a national level are shown in the following table:

**Table 1: Overall changes in the national top-slice**

National Top Slice	2021/22 £m	2022/23 £m	Increase/ (Decrease) £m	% Variation
PFI	71.6	71.6	-	0%
Police Technology Programme	484.7	606.5	121.8	25%
Arm's Length bodies	70.5	68.7	- 1.8	-3%
Police Uplift Programme	14.5	12.0	- 2.5	-17%
National Operational Policing Unit	2.9	2.9	-	0%
Regional Organised Crime Units	4.9	33.2	28.3	578%
Counter Terrorism	32.5	32.5	-	0%
National Policing Capabilities (NPCC)	38.7	65.0	26.3	68%
NPCC Programmes	3.2	10.6	7.4	231%
Special Grant	54.8	62.4	7.6	14%
Forsensics	25.6	25.6	-	0%
Police Now	7.0	7.0	-	0%
Serious Violence	38.9	50.1	11.2	29%
Police & CJS performance		13.0	13.0	
Crime Reduction Programmes		45.8	45.8	
Crime Reduction Capabilities		13.5	13.5	
Fraud		23.1	23.1	
Rape Review		12.0	12.0	
Drugs/County Lines		30.0	30.0	
Capital Reallocations		188.1	188.1	
Safer Streets Fund	20.0		- 20.0	-100%
Bluelight Commercial Organisation	5.0		- 5.0	-100%
Serious Organised Crime Strategy	146.3		- 146.3	-100%
International Crime Coordination Centre	5.0		- 5.0	-100%
Science, Technology and Research	5.2		- 5.2	-100%
Pre charge Bail	2.0		- 2.0	-100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,033.3</b>	<b>1,373.6</b>	<b>340.3</b>	<b>33%</b>

210. As the top slice has increased it is expected that additional costs and charges will arise because of some of these central initiatives. Changes may also be required to ICT systems to ensure these projects can be used locally.
211. Planning for beyond 2022/23 is challenging. There is significant activity which will impact on this planning:
- The economic impact of the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - The anticipated review of the funding formula. Work has commenced as part of a senior sector group.
  - The long-term funding plans for the uplift in police officers as they progress through incremental scale.
  - Centrally driven ICT programmes such as the replacement of Airwave and the Police National Computer.

212 There are a number of areas, outside the level of central government grant that are sensitive to changes in the wider economy. These are:

- The impact of the significant increases in inflation currently being experienced.
- The interest earned on the reserves which is linked to the bank base rate. These income levels have been further reduced for 2022/23.
- The fall in the value of sterling against the Euro and the Dollar can lead to some additional inflationary costs. As nearly 84% of the MTFS budget costs are employment related these costs are relatively protected from this variable. The most significant impact is likely to be on fuel and computer products.

### 3. Local and Regional Context and Funding Levels

31. The local impact of the provisional settlement will provide increased funding for Devon and Cornwall. The overall effect of the funding announced within the provisional settlement is shown in the table below.

<b>Table 2: Overall Funding</b>				
<b>Summary</b>	<b>2021/22 £m</b>	<b>2022/23 £m</b>	<b>Variation £m</b>	<b>Variation %</b>
Core Grant	119.2	126.2	7.0	
DCLG Formula	71.5	75.7	4.2	
Legacy C/Tax Grants	15.5	15.5	-	
<b>Grant</b>	<b>206.2</b>	<b>217.4</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>5.4%</b>
Council Tax	143.6	153.2	9.6	
Council Tax Surplus/ -Deficit	- 0.1	1.0	1.1	
<b>Total Council Tax</b>	<b>143.5</b>	<b>154.2</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>7.5%</b>
<b>Funding Available</b>	<b>349.7</b>	<b>371.6</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>6.3%</b>

32. The core grant funding has increased by £11.2m. This additional funding, along with the increase in council tax revenue of £10.7m, is required to cover the uplift in officers, the pay award, inflation and other pressures.

33. The council tax funding for 2022/23 has continued to be complex due to the impact of the pandemic on the economy. During the budget setting process for 2021/22 collecting authorities were cautious around their assumptions on collection rates, increases to the council tax base and the level of council tax payers requiring support. At that point there was uncertainty around the continuation of government measures in place to support the economy during the pandemic and also uncertainty on how the pandemic would impact on national and international economies. These assumptions can now be assessed against the actual impact based on draft assessments from the collecting authorities:

- The payments received for the 2021/22 council tax bills have been higher than anticipated. It was estimated there would be a net deficit of £113,000 to be charged for 2022/23. However, it is anticipated that this will now be a surplus of £1.055m, a positive movement of £942,000.
- The increase in the council tax base was estimated to be 1% and it now anticipated to be 2.34% providing a positive movement of £3.2m. The increase in the council tax base is a combination of increased properties and less council

tax payers requiring support will their bills.

34. The proposed increase to the Band D precept by £10.00 equates to an increase of 4.23% on the council tax. This increase generates funding of £6.1m but when combined with the changes to the council tax base and overall surplus/deficit it is anticipated to increase this funding to £10.7m.
35. At the time of writing this report the allocations to individual Commissioners for the funding for counter-terrorism policing have not been announced. However, based on previous years we are not anticipating there will be any increased funding for Devon and Cornwall.
36. The pay award is the most significant inflationary pressure on the budget with the overall pay budgets being 84% of total expenditure for 2022/23. During 2021/22 pay awards were paused. As part of the three year Spending Review covering 2022/23 to 2024/25 it was announced that the pay award pause would be lifted. An assumption of 2.5% has been included across the MTFS. Appropriate estimates have been made for pay, and scenario modelling has been undertaken on this key variable.
37. Unless significant, any changes to the revenue generated from the final declared council tax surpluses or council tax base changes will be dealt with by way of a transfer either to or from general balances
38. The overall level of funding is set to increase by 6.3%. Table 3 below shows a summary of the main increases in expenditure of 2020/21

<b>Table 3: summary of the Use of Additional Funding</b>		
<b>Summary</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Additional Funding (see table 2 above)		<b>21.9</b>
<b>Increases</b>		
National Police Officer Uplift	6.0	
Local Police Officer Uplift		6.0
<b>Unavoidable Changes</b>		
Pay Inflation	6.2	
Increase in National Insurance Contributions	2.4	
Inflation	3.9	
Non Pay Costs	1.7	
Commitments	0.7	
Capital Funding	1.2	16.1
<b>Investment</b>		0.7
<b>Change in the use of Reserves</b>		1.4
<b>Savings</b>		- 2.3
		<b>21.9</b>

39. The key financial information relating to the four-year budget requirement and the precept increase is shown in Appendix 1. The level of council tax funding equates to 41% of the overall income for 2022/23 which is a 1% increase compared with 2021/22.

## 4. Setting the Council Tax

- 4.1. Government guidelines have set the maximum amount that the council tax can be increased, without triggering a referendum, at £10 (4.23%). The proposed increase from the Commissioner is to utilise the full flexibility. The budget forecasts contained in this report are based on this assumption. The impact on the Band D council tax is shown in table 4 below.

**Table 4: Council Tax Bands**

Valuation Band	2021/22 £	2022/23 £	Increase £	Increase %	Increase per day £	Increase per week £	Increase per month £
A	157.71	164.37	6.67	4.23%	0.02	0.13	0.56
B	183.99	191.77	7.78	4.23%	0.02	0.15	0.65
C	210.28	219.16	8.89	4.23%	0.02	0.17	0.74
<b>D</b>	<b>236.56</b>	<b>246.56</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>4.23%</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>0.19</b>	<b>0.83</b>
E	289.13	301.35	12.22	4.23%	0.03	0.24	1.02
F	341.70	356.14	14.44	4.23%	0.04	0.28	1.20
G	394.27	410.93	16.67	4.23%	0.05	0.32	1.39
H	473.12	493.12	20.00	4.23%	0.05	0.38	1.67

## 5. Detailed Total Budget Requirement

- 5.1. The overall revenue position for 2021/22 indicates an underspend position. A review of 2021/22 expenditure has been undertaken in preparing the budget to ensure that any underlying pressures have been appropriately reflected in future years' budget assumptions.

### Financial Planning Assumptions

52. A list of budget assumptions is attached in Appendix 1. Key assumptions are covered below:
- General inflation.
  - Pay awards.
  - The capital programme and force investment (which affects revenue costs and new borrowing – this is covered in section 7).
  - The Council Tax base.
  - Staff Pension Contributions
53. **General Inflation** – Inflation has only been applied to budgets that are subject to inflationary pressures. Actual CPI for November 2021 was 5.1%, compared to 0.3% in November 2020. Electricity and Gas contracts are expected to increase by 31% and 95% respectively, with Fuel 28.5%. Future years increases have been assumed at 5%.
54. **Pay Awards** – As announced by Government in the autumn spending review the current pause in the pay awards will cease. The MTFS assumes a 2.5% pay award across the MTFS.
55. **Council Tax Base** - The council tax base which consists of the total value of properties by band D has increase by 2.34% for 2022/23. From 2023/24 an increase of 1.5% has been assumed.
56. **Staff Pension Contributions** – The Police Office pension's contribution rates are set by central government and equate to 31% in 2022/23., A notional £500,000 has been

added to the MTFS from 2024/25 when the results of the next actuarial valuation are expected. The police staff pension contributions rates are set by the pension provider (Peninsula Pensions hosted by Devon County Council) and are set at 16.5% from 2022/23. A revaluation of both pension schemes is due during the period of this MTFS

## 6. The Overall Budget Preparation

6.1. The budget process for 2022/23 has been undertaken on a similar basis to that of the previous year. This is shown in Appendix 1 and includes the identification of:

- Unavoidable changes in costs arising from the budget assumptions and other factors for example changes to external income and specific grants.
- Priority spending areas that are essential to delivery of the Police and Crime Plan and to improving the long-term efficiency of the service.
- Savings required.

### Savings Plans

6.2. Over the next four years we will continue to seek savings and efficiencies in order to reallocate resources. Although the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) has provided indicative levels for 2022/23 to 2024/25 further cash savings may need to be made and will be impacted upon by the overall government grant and future referendum limits.

6.3. Where possible non-staff savings are maximised to protect public services. These include further reductions in estate costs, transport costs and ICT running costs.

6.4. To continue to further drive productivity and value for money, the Chief Constable will continue to challenge costs of operational business areas across the force, to seek financial and time savings not only for this coming year but also the future years. In order to optimise procurement savings, the BlueLight Commercial Company funded by the Home Office is working to provide collaborative procurement solutions to forces. This along with the agreement to expand the regional procurement collaboration, to include Avon and Somerset and cover all five forces in the region, will achieve greater efficiencies for the whole region.

### The Main Budget Components

6.5. The total budget requirement is built up of three main areas:

- The Chief Constable's Budget.
- The OPCC Office Budget and Commissioning Budget.
- The Capital Budget.

### The Chief Constable's Budget

6.6. The Commissioner owns the overall budget and is responsible for all income and sets the overall expenditure envelope. During the financial year the Commissioner delegates financial control of the Chief Constable's Budget to the Chief Constable who monitors and manages its day-to-day spending. The overall level of the 2022/23 Chief Constable's budget is £364.6m. The detailed allocations are shown in Appendix 1. A letter from the Chief Constable is attached as Appendix 2 to this report which covers, in more detail, the operational impact, risks and opportunities within this MTFS.

6.7. The Chief Constable is operationally independent under law and is responsible for the

deployment of police officers and staff to keep the public safe and deliver policing in Devon and Cornwall.

68. Delivering the Police and Crime Plan and the force mission relies on longer term planning than a single year. As in previous years the Chief Constable's Budget is presented in the context of the future four-year MTFS to ensure that any potential funding risks can be mitigated by operational savings within the timescale required. This ensures that proposals are sustainable longer term. The respective Chief Finance Officers have worked together and agree on the inflation and other assumptions built into the budget proposals.
69. This year (2022/23) will see the final phase of the Government's commitment to increasing police officers by 20,000 for England and Wales over a three-year period. The final phase, which runs to March 2023, will include a further uplift of 8,000 officers of which 188 will be recruited in Devon and Cornwall. This recruitment will include a small allocation of officers to be seconded to regional and national capabilities. The changes in the workforce for 2022/23 and beyond are shown in Appendix 1.
610. The change in workforce numbers arises due to:
  - Additional investment from the Government to achieve an uplift of 8,000 officers across England and Wales.
  - Additional investment in front line police staff.
611. The budget includes investment as part of the Police and Crime Plan priorities. The main focus of the increase in expenditure relates to the uplift in officers along with pressures arising from the following items
  - Pay awards
  - Inflationary pressures
  - Investment in connectivity
  - Contractual commitments

#### **OPCC Office Budget and Commissioning Budget**

612. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) budget is split into two parts. The cost of administering the OPCC and funds that are used for commissioning purposes.
613. The OPCC office costs budget is proposed to be set at £2.1m for 2022/23. A commissioning budget of £4.9m which includes the serious violence programme budget of £1m. Producing a total net budget of £7m.
614. Funding of £2.9m is anticipated from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to support victims and witnesses along with a contribution from the Commissioners reserve of £200k to support the perpetrators programme. Which brings the overall commissioning budget to £8m.
615. The office budget is now £2.1m which represents 0.57% of the net revenue budget. This is an increase of £103k which includes assumptions for pay award and increased costs associated with the new legislative requirements on complaint reviews. The office costs also cover the following items:-
  - The Independent Audit Committee

- Legally Qualified Chairs for Police misconduct panels
- The Complaint Review process
- External and Internal Audit Fees
- Independent Custody Visiting scheme

616. The commissioning budget increases by £397k to cover increases to ongoing contractual arrangements. The Commissioning Intentions Plan for 2022/23 is attached as Appendix 3 to this report. The plan includes support for the following areas:

- Violence
- Anti-social behaviour
- Drugs
- Road Safety
- Victim Services

#### **The Capital Budget**

617. The Commissioner is required to publish a capital strategy. This has been published and can be found on the OPCC website.

618. The Capital Programme indicates a total spend of £70m over the four years. The detail of the capital programme is attached in Appendix 1. The most significant new projects within the capital programme are:

- A new police station for Exmouth.
- A large corporate support facility in Plymouth.
- An allocation to explore optimising the South Devon Estate
- A project to rebuild the Sports Centre on Middlemoor following significant structural issues with the existing facility.
- The replacement of the records management system (RMS) for crime reporting.
- Replacement Contact Centre System
- The replacement Emergency Services Network (ESN)
- A comprehensive programme of ICT work across the organisation.

619. The annual revenue costs associated with this programme are contained within the budget. The level of capital financing costs equate to £4m and as a percentage of net revenue expenditure is 1.08% which compares with the average for all 43 forces. The funding policy of the Commissioner is to ensure that short life assets are funded by capital grant/receipts or revenue contributions. The revenue contribution to capital outlay (RCCO) has been increased by £1m for 2022/23 to £4.8m in order to support the programme of technology enhancements. The financing plan aims to make the maximum use of temporary internal borrowing from revenue reserves until they are used in the budget plan.

620. The Home Office have announced the cessation of the capital grant allocation as part

of the settlement. The impact is a loss of annual funding of £296k. Funding via s106 planning obligations and Community Infrastructure Level (CIL) are now actively being pursued with local planning authorities. The main sources of funding for the capital programme are:

- Reserves – which are planned to reduce over this MTFS.
- Capital Receipts – which have a finite level.
- Capital Grant – which will now only be available for specific or ad hoc projects.
- Revenue Contributions to Capital – which have been increased.
- Borrowing – which needs to be affordable in the longer term.

## 7. Reserves

- 7.1. The Reserves Strategy is published annually and can be found on the OPCC website. The Strategy is reviewed annually and includes a risk assessment of the general balance. The Strategy is taken to the Independent Audit Committee for review and comment prior to approval by the Commissioner.
- 7.2. The Commissioner's Reserve Strategy has the following key principles:
  - The reserves policy will be seeking to maintain general balances at no more than 5% and no less than 3% of overall funding levels each year.
  - The requirement for the reserves will be reviewed at least annually. Those reserves no longer required for their intended purpose will be identified and made available for other defined priorities.
  - Reserves will be assessed annually to ensure adequacy.
  - Risk assumptions used when assessing reserves will be reviewed annually.
  - A long-term view will be used when assessing the use of reserves to ensure all assets that support policing are maintained.
  - General balances cover the general financial risks. This will include unexpected or unavoidable additional costs, such as a major operations, uninsured liabilities, or treasury management risks.
- 7.3. The current level of general balances predicted at the end of 2021/22 indicate that they will stand at 4.1% of the net revenue budget. This is compliant with the Reserves Strategy which is in line with best practice.
- 7.4. As of 31st March 2021 the total amount of reserves held were £46.1m. This is forecast to reduce to £25m by the end of 2025/26. The Commissioner considers the level of reserves and their planned reduction when considering the proposals for the level of council tax increases each year. During 2021/22 the Commissioner agreed to take on the Treasury function for the Vision Zero South West (VZSW) partnership and therefore reserves levels have increased during 2021/22 by £4.1m.
- 7.5. The planned use of the reserves is in line with the Home Office drive to reduce the level of reserves being held by Commissioners.



## 8. Conclusion for the Police and Crime Panel

81. In considering the increase of £10.00 (per Band D equivalent) in council tax funding, the Commissioner has considered this year's funding settlement and seeks to ensure that funding for the force keeps pace with inflation at current levels. The increase in precept along with continued delivery of financial savings means that the MTFS can allow for growth in line with the Government's commitment to an uplift in officer numbers. The budget is looking to strengthen, stabilise and sustain the investments made in previous years to ensure a robust and sustainable MTFS.
82. There are new and different demands being placed upon policing and resources need to be freed up to address these. As the pandemic continues the full impact has yet to be fully realised and assessed. The indicative funding levels provided as part of the three year CSR provide valuable information to inform future years budgets. Many of the new areas of policing require investment in new technology before any operational savings can be generated or operational benefits fully realised. Increases in the council tax will allow these investments to be made and still provide opportunity for a further increase in police officer numbers and co- funded blue light officers.

### **These proposals are not without risk**

83. A risk register is attached as Appendix 4. The implementation of the amended funding formula remains a significant future risk. Work has already started nationally to take forward this review. The new funding formula allocation could remove annual funding. If required, it is planned to use a proportion of the current reserves which would support a smooth transition to new base levels of expenditure.
84. The Commissioner has also consulted the Chief Constable about the proposal to increase the council tax and the Chief Constable has confirmed that these proposals will ensure a robust and sustainable budget to deliver operational policing and have due regard to the Police and Crime Plan.

**Alison Hernandez**  
**Police and Crime Commissioner**

**Nicola Allen**  
**Treasurer**

### **Attached:-**

Appendix 1 – Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022/23 to 2025/26  
 Appendix 2 – Letter from the Chief Constable  
 Appendix 3 – Commissioning Intentions Plan 2022/23  
 Appendix 4 – Risk Assessment  
 Appendix 5 – Annual Policing Quantitative and Qualitative Survey  
 Appendix 6 – Glossary of Terms

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# Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022/23 to 2025/26

Annual Budget 2022/23

“Strengthen, stabilise and sustain  
policing in Devon, Cornwall and the  
Isles of Scilly”



# **The Medium Term Financial Strategy: 2022/23 To 2025/26**

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# 1. POLICE AND CRIME PLAN

The Police and Crime Commissioner (Commissioner) has a statutory duty to produce a Police and Crime Plan. The Plan must set out the priorities for policing and community safety in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly along with the resources that will be provided to the Chief Constable and others in order to meet those objectives. The Plan must be kept under regular review to ensure it remains appropriate to the needs of local people, the police and partners. The Plan is subject to scrutiny by the Police and Crime Panel.

The Police and Crime Plan can be found at:

<http://www.devonandcornwall-pcc.gov.uk/information-hub/key-documents/>

The Medium Term Financial Strategy is created to support delivery of the Police and Crime Plan. It sets out both the funding available and the forecast spending required to deliver the Plan priorities.

## Police and Crime Plan

The Police and Crime Plan was created in November 2021 and will be used to inform the Peninsula Strategic Assessment. The new Plan will run until 2024/25 and sets out the Commissioner's priorities for Devon and Cornwall, including:

- ❖ Violence
- ❖ Antisocial behaviour
- ❖ Drugs
- ❖ Road Safety
- ❖ Victims

The Commissioner will work closely with the Chief Constable and colleagues across the Peninsula to drive forward progress against these priorities.

During 2021/22 the coronavirus pandemic, again, dominated the nation. This involved significant work across the peninsula to protect the communities. Devon and Cornwall also hosted the G7 summit in St Ives, Cornwall.

This MTFS includes the impact for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly on the national uplift in officer numbers. 2022/23 will see the final phase of the three year programme which was reprofiled to include a national uplift in the second phase of 6,000 and 8,000 officers in the final phase. The final phase of the increase has been announced with an increase of 188 officers for the area.

The Police and Crime Plan places a strong emphasis on protecting the vulnerable in our society. There has been significant progress, but the work continues to encourage the reporting of crime and encouraging victims to come forward and seek justice and to ensuring that they receive a high quality service when they do come forward.

The focus of the 2022/23 budget process is specifically on the ongoing police officer uplift programme and to enable it to be sustained for the long term. This will enable Devon and Cornwall Police to strengthen, stabilise and sustain their current position and fulfil the recruitment trajectory already underway to continue delivery of a progressive policing service. Visibility of policing and public confidence in policing is vitally important and this budget will keep police officer numbers high.

Connectivity remains a focus of the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan. It remains vital that the public are able to access and contact the police and improvements in this area, including the 101 service, are included in the investments within this budget.

### **Delivery & accountability**

The Police and Crime Plan will be delivered by the Commissioner with close co-operation from the Chief Constable and partners and will be taken forward through shared action plans and joint projects.

The Plan details how strategic measures and indicators (including qualitative surveys) will be used to monitor its implementation and successful achievement. Regular progress reports will be published on the OPCC website.

The Commissioner is required to report regularly to the Police and Crime Panel.

### **Slavery and Human Trafficking compliance statement**

The Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable are committed to eliminating discrimination and exploitation in all its forms from the workplace and will not knowingly or otherwise be complicit in human rights infringements.

Slavery, servitude, forced or compulsory labour, including child labour and human trafficking and other human rights offences must be identified, tackled and prevented for the future.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary embrace the obligations placed on organisations under section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and understands they are vital in tackling and preventing modern slavery and human trafficking.

## 2. REVENUE STRATEGY

### a. FUNDING FORECAST

The funding forecast provides a prediction of the level of funding across the timeframe of the MTFS.

2021/22		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	<u>Grant Funding</u>				
119,267	Core settlement	126,166	128,493	131,983	136,121
71,504	DCLG Formula	75,744	75,744	75,744	78,118
15,461	Legacy CT Grants	15,461	15,461	15,461	15,461
206,232		217,371	219,698	223,188	229,700
	<u>Council Tax</u>				
143,618	Precept income	153,186	161,790	170,618	178,355
0	Surplus	1,918	1,200	1,300	1,400
(118)	Deficit	(863)	(863)	0	0
143,500		154,241	162,127	171,918	179,755
<b>349,732</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>371,612</b>	<b>381,825</b>	<b>395,106</b>	<b>409,456</b>
607,111	Tax base	621,294	630,614	640,073	649,674
-1.03%	Tax base Increase	2.34%	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%
236.56	Band D	246.56	256.56	266.56	274.53
6.73%	Council Tax Increase %	4.23%	4.06%	3.90%	2.99%
£9.36	Council Tax Increase £	£10.00	£10.00	£10.00	£7.97

## b. MAIN COMPONENTS OF THE REVENUE BUDGET

21/22 Agreed Plan £000's	Category	Description	22/23 MTFS Plan £000's	23/24 MTFS Plan £000's	24/25 MTFS Plan £000's	25/26 MTFS Plan £000's
196,775	Pay & Employment Costs	Police Officer Costs	212,357	221,095	228,390	237,022
94,034		Police Staff Costs	94,230	95,439	98,027	100,720
2,086		Restructure, Training & Conference Costs	2,117	2,135	2,147	2,150
934		Other Employee Expenses	928	928	928	928
<b>293,829</b>	<b>Pay &amp; Employment Costs Total</b>		<b>309,632</b>	<b>319,597</b>	<b>329,492</b>	<b>340,820</b>
14,860	Overheads	Premises Related Expenditure	14,978	15,120	15,510	15,974
16,275		Supplies and Services	17,000	16,635	16,914	17,172
16,153		Communications and Computing	17,623	17,643	18,124	18,403
5,687		Transport Related Expenditure	6,433	6,307	6,546	6,771
11,914		Third Party Payments	13,412	14,164	14,450	14,744
<b>64,890</b>	<b>Overheads Total</b>		<b>69,447</b>	<b>69,870</b>	<b>71,544</b>	<b>73,063</b>
(10,567)	Grant, Trading & Reimbursement Income	Government & Overseas Funding	(9,098)	(9,119)	(8,729)	(8,753)
0		Interest/ Investment Income	(13)	(22)	(20)	(17)
(6)		Local Government Specific/Partnership Funding	0	0	0	0
(209)		Reimbursed Services - Other	(257)	(257)	(257)	(257)
(1,388)		Reimbursed Services - Other Police Forces	(2,106)	(2,132)	(2,159)	(2,175)
(6,782)		Reimbursed Services - Other Public Bodies	(7,848)	(7,707)	(7,788)	(7,877)
(4,507)		Sales, Fees, Charges and Rents	(5,007)	(4,974)	(5,166)	(5,473)
(474)		Special Police Services	(304)	(298)	(291)	(285)
<b>(23,932)</b>	<b>Grant, Trading &amp; Reimbursement Income Total</b>		<b>(24,633)</b>	<b>(24,509)</b>	<b>(24,411)</b>	<b>(24,837)</b>
1,443	Capital Financing and Contributions	Loan Charges	1,339	1,528	1,648	1,742
2,181		Minimum Revenue Provision	2,217	2,500	2,857	3,405
4,042		Revenue Contribution to Capital	4,831	4,042	5,105	6,133
<b>7,666</b>	<b>Capital Financing and Contributions Total</b>		<b>8,387</b>	<b>8,070</b>	<b>9,610</b>	<b>11,280</b>
1,535	Transfers to / (from) Specific Reserves		1,034	615	651	868
<b>1,535</b>	<b>Transfers to / (from) Reserves Total</b>		<b>1,034</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>868</b>
<b>343,988</b>	<b>Total Force</b>		<b>363,867</b>	<b>373,642</b>	<b>386,885</b>	<b>401,194</b>
2,002	Office of the PCC		2,105	2,106	2,108	2,109
3,743	PCC Commissioning		4,940	5,047	5,053	5,059
<b>5,745</b>	<b>Total OPCC</b>		<b>7,045</b>	<b>7,153</b>	<b>7,161</b>	<b>7,168</b>
	Investments		<b>700</b>	<b>1,030</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>1,093</b>
<b>349,733</b>	<b>Net Revenue Expenditure</b>		<b>371,612</b>	<b>381,825</b>	<b>395,106</b>	<b>409,456</b>
	<b>Funding</b>		<b>371,612</b>	<b>381,825</b>	<b>395,106</b>	<b>409,456</b>



## c. SCHEDULE OF KEY BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

This schedule identifies the key assumptions used in the ongoing calculation of the 2022/23 budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy.

- Government Police Grant funding will increase by 5.4% in 2022/23, this includes Devon & Cornwall's share of the £550m allocated nationally and includes funding for additional officers. A three year settlement was announced with confirmation of national increases £650m 2023/24, and £800m 2024/25. An increase of 3.13% was assumed for 2025/26.
- Capital grant has been removed by central government.
- Police pension's specific grant is assumed to continue throughout the MTFS at the same cash level as received in 2022/23.
- This MTFS assumes Council Tax will increase by £10 in 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2.99 % in 2025/26 for a Band D property.
- The 2022/23 figures for tax base and Council Tax surplus along with future years assumptions are shown below. The previous year figures are included for context.

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Annual increase in tax base	-1.03%	2.34%	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%
Annual surplus/deficit on Council Tax collection funds	-£1.8m *	£1.9m	£1.2m	£1.3m	£1.4m

\* 2020/21 element of collection fund deficit to be spread across three years, as per legislation.

- Turnover on police officers takes into account officers leaving at their usual pension date, plus an estimate for ill health retirements, transfers out and resignations.
- No pay award was given to police officers and police staff from September 2021. The MTFS assumes that a 2.5% pay award will be applied on 01 September 2022, and each year thereafter for police officers and police staff.
- Police officer employer pension contributions have been assumed to be paid at 31.0%. A notional £0.5m has been added into the MTFS from 2024/25 when the results of the next actuarial valuation are expected to be applied.
- Inflation has been applied only to budgets that are subject to inflationary pressures. Actual CPI for November 2021 was 5.1%, compared to 0.3% in November 2020. Electricity and Gas contracts are expected to increase by 31% and 95% respectively, with Fuel 28.5%. Future years increases have been assumed at 5%.
- The employer's current contribution to the police staff pension scheme, plus agreed contributions to deficit will be as set out below.

	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
LGPS Base Contribution	16.30%	16.30%	16.30%	16.30%	16.30%
Plus Repayment of LGPS Deficit (cash lump sum)	£0.522m	£0.522m	£0.522m	£0.522m	£0.522m
<b>Estimated Total Cash Contribution</b>	<b>£12.5m</b>	<b>£12.7m</b>	<b>£12.9m</b>	<b>£13.2m</b>	<b>£13.4m</b>
% of Staff Pay Budgets	16.90%	16.80%	16.80%	16.70%	16.50%

## d. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN THE REVENUE BUDGET BETWEEN 2025/26 AND 2021/22

	22/23 MTFS Plan £000's	23/24 MTFS Plan £000's	24/25 MTFS Plan £000's	25/26 MTFS Plan £000's
2021/22 Budget	349,732	349,732	349,732	349,732
<u>Savings</u>				
Cost Challenge	(200)	(300)	(300)	(300)
Estates - utilities base budget savings	(493)	(493)	(493)	(493)
Other savings	(376)	(758)	(859)	(961)
Planned Budget Reductions	(1,277)	(2,427)	(2,427)	(2,427)
<u>Pay and Inflation</u>				
Pay Award	4,272	11,681	19,238	27,010
National Insurance 1.25%	2,438	2,438	2,438	2,438
Uplift Officers	5,956	10,708	11,299	11,890
Other Pay Changes	1,967	737	2,342	5,480
Pensions Growth	0	0	500	500
Inflationary Increases	3,888	4,394	5,649	6,707
Contractual Changes	1,657	2,977	3,330	3,329
<u>Capital Financing</u>				
RCCO	1,296	1,296	2,296	3,296
MRP/Interest	(68)	404	881	1,523
<u>Other</u>				
Previous year approved growth	707	707	707	707
Changes in Use of reserves	(554)	939	1,872	1,973
Uplift Grant and Non pay changes	(874)	(2,167)	(2,189)	(2,189)
Structured Financial Approach	2,840	928	31	147
Investment	700	1,030	1,061	1,093
<b>Total 22/23 MTFS</b>	<b>371,612</b>	<b>381,825</b>	<b>395,106</b>	<b>409,455</b>

\* Structured Financial Approach: Financial resourcing model, releasing funding in a structured manner across the period of the MTFS and beyond to fund service developments.

## e. INCOME FROM SALES, FEES, CHARGES AND RENTS

This analysis details the level of external income generated from sales, fees, charges and rents. The level of income generated is continually reviewed to ensure that all opportunities are optimised.

	21/22 Budget £000's	22/23 Budget £000's	23/24 Budget £000's	24/25 Budget £000's	25/26 Budget £000's
National Driver Offender Retraining Scheme	(2,535)	(2,735)	(2,870)	(3,012)	(3,161)
Firearms Certificates	(471)	(420)	(242)	(283)	(430)
Rents & Lettings	(331)	(328)	(328)	(328)	(328)
Accident Reports	(210)	(280)	(280)	(280)	(280)
Driver Improvement Income	(4)	(197)	(206)	(216)	(227)
Sale of Vehicles	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)
Vehicle Recovery	(158)	(188)	(188)	(188)	(188)
Radio Masts and Equipment Hire	(66)	(66)	(66)	(66)	(66)
Foreign Nationals Registration / Pedlars	(36)	(36)	(36)	(36)	(36)
Stores External Income	(36)	(36)	(36)	(36)	(36)
Provision of Vehicle Services	(35)	(35)	(35)	(35)	(35)
Other Sales, Fees, Charges and Rents	(525)	(587)	(587)	(587)	(587)
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>(4,507)</b>	<b>(5,007)</b>	<b>(4,974)</b>	<b>(5,166)</b>	<b>(5,473)</b>

## f. STAFFING ANALYSIS

	2021/22 (FTE)	2022/23 (FTE)	2023/24 (FTE)	2024/25 (FTE)	2025/26 (FTE)
<b><u>Police Officers</u></b>					
Opening Balance at 1st April	3,241	3,422	3,610	3,610	3,610
Precept funded change	40	0	0	0	0
Uplift numbers	141*	188*	0	0	0
<b>Closing Balance at 31st March</b>	<b>3,422</b>	<b>3,610</b>	<b>3,610</b>	<b>3,610</b>	<b>3,610</b>
* Includes 16 FTE allocated to ROCU (6 21/22, 10 22/23).					
<b><u>Police Community Support</u></b>					
PCSO *	150	150	150	150	150
Blue Light	43	43	43	43	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>193</b>
* estimated year end numbers					
<b><u>Police Staff (Force)</u></b>					
Opening Balance at 1st April	2,127	2,217	2,256	2,215	2,215
Investment/Uplift	90	39	-41	0	0
<b>Closing Balance at 31st March</b>	<b>2,217</b>	<b>2,256</b>	<b>2,215</b>	<b>2,215</b>	<b>2,215</b>
<b><u>Police Staff (OPCC)</u></b>					
Opening Balance at 1st April	29	29	32	32	32
Change	0	3	0	0	0
<b>Closing Balance at 31st March</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>

### 3. RESERVES AND BALANCES SUMMARY

	Actual Balance 31/3/2021 £000's	Forecast Balance 31/3/2022 £000's	Forecast Balance 31/3/2023 £000's	Forecast Balance 31/3/2024 £000's	Forecast Balance 31/3/2025 £000's	Forecast Balance 31/3/2026 £000's
<b>Revenue Reserves</b>						
Programme and Projects Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0
Estates Development Reserve	609	298	0	0	0	0
Capital Financing Reserve	12,293	8,547	5,008	3,000	2,000	1,000
ESN Capital Reserve	10,225	10,225	10,010	6,902	648	648
VZSW (Ringfenced)	0	4,089	4,173	4,261	4,450	4,640
Budget Management Fund	3,812	2,765	3,356	3,135	2,948	2,877
Police and Crime Plan Reserve	991	991	991	991	991	991
Operational Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0
PEQF Reserve	127	0	0	0	0	0
Uplift Reserve	3,631	2,818	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Revenue Reserves</b>	<b>31,688</b>	<b>29,733</b>	<b>23,538</b>	<b>18,289</b>	<b>11,037</b>	<b>10,156</b>
<b>Capital Reserves</b>						
Capital Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Receipts	0	960	960	107	0	0
<b>Total Capital Reserves</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
General Balances	14,402	15,485	15,185	14,885	14,885	14,885
<b>Total Reserves and Balances</b>	<b>46,091</b>	<b>46,178</b>	<b>39,683</b>	<b>33,282</b>	<b>25,923</b>	<b>25,041</b>

## 4. COUNCIL TAX INFORMATION AND PRECEPT

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Police Budget to be met from Council Tax	153,186,325	143,500,044
Less net surplus on council tax collection from previous years	1,054,669	118,231
Total precept payable by Billing Authorities	<u>154,240,994</u>	<u>143,618,275</u>

Tax base, collection variations and precepts						
2022/23						
	Tax Base declared by Councils	Total Precept collected by Councils	2021/22 Surplus (Deficit) on collection	2020/21 Year 2 spread of deficit Deficit	Amount due from Councils	% share collected by Councils
	£	£	£	£	£	
East Devon	60,805.00	14,992,080.80	205,095.00	(96,375.67)	15,100,800.13	9.79%
Exeter	37,666.00	9,286,928.96	30,151.00	(14,924.33)	9,302,155.63	6.03%
Mid Devon	29,811.41	7,350,301.25	387,082.62	(50,827.00)	7,686,556.87	4.98%
North Devon	34,762.04	8,570,928.58	(48,545.75)	0.00	8,522,382.83	5.53%
Plymouth	73,830.00	18,203,524.80	(42,834.00)	(83,874.33)	18,076,816.47	11.72%
South Hams	39,139.70	9,650,284.43	178,340.00	(8,340.00)	9,820,284.43	6.37%
Teignbridge	49,633.00	12,237,512.48	56,338.00	(99,447.67)	12,194,402.81	7.91%
Torbay	46,194.82	11,389,794.82	100,161.21	(133,307.00)	11,356,649.03	7.36%
Torridge	24,447.03	6,027,659.72	141,697.53	(10,720.33)	6,158,636.92	3.99%
West Devon	20,687.75	5,100,771.64	111,397.67	(2,397.67)	5,209,771.64	3.38%
Cornwall	203,074.59	50,070,070.91	813,932.00	(362,932.00)	50,521,070.91	32.75%
Isles of Scilly	1,242.97	306,466.68	(15,000.00)	0.00	291,466.68	0.19%
	<u>621,294.31</u>	<u>153,186,325.07</u>	<u>1,917,815.28</u>	<u>(863,146.00)</u>	<u>154,240,994.35</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

Police element of Council Tax due for each Property Valuation Band						
Valuation band	Government multiplier		Council Tax by band		Increase per week	%
	Ratio		2022/23	2021/22		
A	6 / 9	0.667	£164.37	£157.71	+ 12.8 p	4.23%
B	7 / 9	0.778	£191.77	£183.99	+ 15.0 p	
C	8 / 9	0.889	£219.16	£210.28	+ 17.1 p	
D	1	1.000	£246.56	£236.56	+ 19.2 p	
E	11 / 9	1.222	£301.35	£289.13	+ 23.5 p	
F	13 / 9	1.444	£356.14	£341.70	+ 27.8 p	
G	15 / 9	1.667	£410.93	£394.27	+ 32.0 p	4.23%
H	18 / 9	2.000	£493.12	£473.12	+ 38.5 p	

## 5. CAPITAL PROGRAMME

CAPITAL PROGRAMME	Revised 2021/22 £000's	2022/23 £000's	2023/24 £000's	2024/25 £000's	2025/26 £000's
Vehicles	1,806	3,257	2,188	1,762	1,793
Minor Building Works	984	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Major Building Works					
Bodmin Custody/Cornwall HQ	0	0	0	1,000	0
Bodmin Refurbishment (funded by SWF)	160	0	0	0	0
Camborne	750	642	0	0	0
Dartmouth	300	0	0	0	0
Exmouth	0	50	2,000	2,000	0
HQ Sports Centre	500	1,668	0	0	0
ICT Classroom	10	61	0	0	0
Liskeard	41	0	0	0	0
Plymouth Support Facility	600	3,424	600	0	0
Barnstaple	100	786	0	0	0
HQ Middlemoor Project	1,253	0	0	0	0
South Devon Estate	0	1,836	918	306	0
St Ives Relocation	0	280	280	0	0
Police Station Appraisals	0	1,026	1,153	0	0
Vehicle Workshops	0	0	307	308	1,230
North Devon Appraisal	0	0	0	1,000	0
<b>TOTAL Major Works</b>	<b>3,714</b>	<b>9,773</b>	<b>5,258</b>	<b>4,614</b>	<b>1,230</b>
ICT					
PRISM	3,345	1,720	698	712	559
National Projects	0	175	200	100	0
ESN	0	215	3,108	6,254	0
ICT	3,257	5,075	3,450	5,318	2,230
Equipment	1,124	1,445	1,280	860	705
<b>TOTAL PROGRAMME</b>	<b>14,230</b>	<b>23,160</b>	<b>17,682</b>	<b>21,120</b>	<b>8,017</b>
<b>CAPITAL FUNDING</b>					
Grants	568	272	163	54	0
Uplift Grant	296	399	0	0	0
Capital Financing Reserve	5,768	7,017	2,758	1,750	1,750
Capital Receipts & Asset Disposal	0	0	853	107	0
Revenue Funding	3,894	4,831	4,042	5,105	6,133
Forensic RCCO	365	0	0	0	0
ESN Reserve	0	215	3,108	6,254	0
Borrowing	3,339	10,426	6,758	7,850	134
<b>Total Capital Funding</b>	<b>14,230</b>	<b>23,160</b>	<b>17,682</b>	<b>21,120</b>	<b>8,017</b>

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**Chief Constable Shaun Sawyer QPM**

Police Headquarters, Middlemoor, Exeter, Devon, EX2 7HQ

📞 101 Non-urgent

📞 999 in an emergency

🌐 [www.devon-cornwall.police.uk](http://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk)

✉️ 101@dc.police.uk

📘 DevonAndCornwallPolice

🐦 @DC\_Police

📺 dc\_police.999

📺 DCPolice

PCC Alison Hernandez  
The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for  
Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly  
Alderson Drive  
Exeter  
EX2 7RP

20 January 2022

CC/SG/SDB

*Devon Cornwall*

## **BUDGET PROPOSAL 2022/2023**

### **Introduction**

I am writing to outline my operational budget requirement for the next four years having regard to the Police and Crime Plan. This follows the Government funding announcements in December 2021, which included details of the final year of funding for the police officer uplift.

This time last year you supported my proposals, which included additional investment in policing for the people and communities of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. That support has given us additional resources to investigate crime, modernise police technology, and provide 40 extra neighbourhood beat managers. This gives us a strong base on which to deliver policing over the next three years.

This year the Government has announced an outline three year settlement, with detailed figures for 2022/2023 and strong indicative figures for the two years thereafter. A three year council tax referendum increase of £10 annually was also announced as part of the available funding. Government grant and precept increase combined will be needed to achieve next years' uplift target. Due to previous uplifts and the additional 216 officers funded through the council tax since 2017, this will give us our highest ever number of officers; and maintain that over at least the following two years. Whilst acknowledging that any increase in council tax is a difficult choice, I believe that a £10 increase per annum will give a budget that allows the force to sustain its strong position and build in officer numbers and capability over the next three years. This proposal is dependent on the maximum increase in council tax announced as part of the funding settlement.

This year Devon and Cornwall has met some significant policing challenges. The force has enforced public health related restrictions whilst also dealing with one of the largest number of summer visitors to Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly ever. The force also supported the country in hosting the G7 global summit whilst facilitating lawful demonstration, enabling people to go about their business despite the presence of a significant international event. Public confidence was at the heart of the operation and the force demonstrated world class policing skills on a global stage.

I am proud of our joint approach to Serious Violence Prevention and building the evidence base in advance of the enactment of the Serious Violence Duty with our partners. The operational response to combatting County Lines has seen significant success. It must though, be recognised that serious violence in the home and enduring concerns in respect of domestic violence is not a challenge which can be resolved within society overnight but can be addressed operationally. Whilst we live in a comparatively low crime area, violence is disproportionately represented as a segment of our total crime.

The response of the force operationally and the commitment of our partnership and communities has been tested several times. High profile homicide within communities, particularly relating to violence against women but also the awful events in Keyham have been met with professionalism and commitment. The strength of affected families and communities will last far longer than the operational response and the support you have provided through Victim Services, alongside local government partners, has been invaluable.

This in turn, has been set in the context of high-profile national incidents which have affected confidence in police legitimacy and trust. This budget approach builds on previous investments in leadership, training, standards and anti-corruption. It also enables the operational delivery of key strategies relating to safety on our streets, in homes and online, with a particular focus upon violence against women and girls, drug related violence, knife crime and hate crime.

Integrity is non-negotiable in this force and those who actively seek to harm the public, who they are sworn to serve and protect, will be rooted out of this organisation. It is notable that in several cases where an individual has failed to meet our standards, it is their colleagues who have reported their behaviour.

### **Police Officers**

The comprehensive spending review puts increasing police officer numbers at its centre. The combination of an average council tax increase of £10 and the uplift grant will fund 188 further officers in 2022/2023. This is of course extremely welcome operationally. By the end of the year, police officer numbers will have increased by nearly 700 since 2017/2018 – nearly a third through precept funded growth outside of the uplift, and the remainder co funded by council tax and grant.

Meeting this target is achievable. Whilst recruiting next years' 188 will involve hard work, we have exceeded our uplift recruitment target each year to date despite the practical difficulties caused by the pandemic. As you are aware, we are notably successful at attracting high numbers of transferees. No doubt this is testament to our reputation as a



force and employer. The hugely successful mutual aid deployments during G7 seem to have left a lasting legacy with our policing partners.

Of course the new officers will not immediately impact performance – those who are not transferees will have significant training periods of both academic and practical training to complete. Nevertheless in 2022 we will increasingly see the effect of the previous recruitments as the new officers are posted to operational duties. As part of the context for the next three years, since uplift began in 2019/2020 we have created, amongst others, the following front line posts:

- A total of 67 extra neighbourhood beat managers: an increase of more than 50%
- 18 extra detectives working on neighbourhood crime
- Additional skilled teams in roads policing (19), specialist dog support, and drone search ability
- 74 additional local patrol officers

These officers are allocated relatively evenly throughout the force area.

Because of the delay in new officers becoming deployable, there are more than 100 posts still to be allocated in the current year which is in addition to the 188 extra officers next year. These officers will allow the force to further develop its operating model and deploy resources in line with its mission and your police and crime plan. It is key that as well as meeting operational demand, the deployment of officers ensures the public is safeguarded, connected and confident.

### **Visibility**

As already mentioned, investments in recent years have enabled us to enhance our local policing and neighbourhood offer. Increasing police numbers last year and this year will be predominantly invested in local policing. Whilst visibility is highly important for public reassurance and confidence, we have also made essential investments in our detective capability, as one of the key indicators of confidence for victims and communities is to be assured that best endeavours have been undertaken to bring offenders to justice.

The force, in partnership with your office, has developed metrics for performance. These will be monitored as part of the force performance profile with oversight and scrutiny through the Police and Crime Plan mechanisms and accountability through existing governance structures.

The force is already, and will continue to, utilise academic best practice, as well as traditional policing skills, to enhance its visibility. It must be noted that visibility also relates to other agencies and investments by Bluelight partners and your investment in tri-service officers with Cornwall Council assists greatly, especially in rural communities. Alongside visibility we are also seeking to invest in accessibility through online services and the opening of some police stations for public access.

PCSO colleagues and other police staff colleagues, such as those in our control room, play an integral part in respect of visibility, accessibility and public confidence. They too will be tasked in respect of these metrics where relevant. Additionally, we believe there

are digital mechanisms through which we can innovate to improve accessibility and visibility online.

I must add one caveat. Visibility in our urban areas is greater than any other part of the force area and yet, we hear from those areas too that there is insufficient visibility. It is important that using these metrics, the force is able to provide accessible information to the public and partners. People tend to see visibility through their own community lens, but I must also see it through the force lens.

Not all police officers are in uniform and, as mentioned, many officers are engaged within CID, public protection, proactive operations and other essential frontline roles. Even were all the officers and PCSOs in the force to be on duty at the same time, there would be less than 1 officer per square mile. Nevertheless, we will focus on this area of policing, realising its importance to both the realities and perceptions of crime within communities.

### **Police Staff**

Depending on their role, police staff work across a wide range of professional disciplines and not only support operational policing, enable it and deliver services to the public too. Your investment last year in staff support to the growing organisation will continue to bear fruit in the three years of this budget proposal.

One key area where staff make up the majority of the workforce is call handling. Most if not all forces are, like us, struggling with meeting demand, including at times 999 calls, within acceptable times. Once calls are answered, the force's response is good and deployments of officers to scenes are keeping apace. Nevertheless the delays in answering calls are no doubt effecting public confidence. To mitigate this issue, within the overall budget proposal are some staff and officer resources as far as the budget envelope allows. The investment is made following an independent assessment of the levels of investment required. A significant recruitment programme to achieve the levels of trained staff required will commence immediately and be supported by an additional investment of police officers into this area of work. There will be particular focus on 999 calls and an earlier triage point by people to ensure 101 calls are better prioritised. This is intended to increase the confidence of the public that policing will be able to respond when needed and support the 999 call monitoring the Home Office will be requiring in the near future.

The force has also successfully trialled vulnerability lawyers who obtain a wide range of orders to protect the public and prevent harm, including domestic violence and stalking protection orders amongst others. Their work in particular focusses on preventing violence against women and girls and my overall proposal allows for an expansion of that service. A lack of public confidence in the ability of the criminal justice service to protect in these scenarios is very clear.

The public need to be confident that we treat information about them properly and in accordance with the law. Increased demand has meant the force has struggled to meet public requests for details of data held about them by the force. Transparency is fundamental to public confidence and the budget proposal includes additional support to that function.



## Overall Three Year Financial Plan

We know we will need to use a range of resources over the next three years to meet changing demand and requirements from the public and the police. I wanted to look beyond the headline increase of uplift officers but also look overall at the resources available to us over the next three years.

- I have already detailed the additional officers funded through precept and uplift grant to date, with around 300 still to be allocated. Work on the operating model will be enhanced next year and it will need to remain flexible to deal with our current unpredictable demands and challenges – including potential requirements from the Home Office Strategic Policing requirement. The Home Office has indicated that local forces, as part of the conditions of the uplift funding, will be expected to provide specialist resources for national tasking beyond normal mutual aid requirement.
- We have a strong team engaged in recruiting, training and providing support and wellness facilities to those officers. Because the increase in officers is combined with historically high turnover, over a third of my officers will have less than three years' service at the end of next year and the organisation needs to adjust for that. We will also be looking at supervision levels as part of the ongoing operating model work.
- You have already financially supported enabling services including finance, HR and professional standards. We will continue to develop these areas, knowing their indirect impact on public confidence if not delivered correctly.
- We have invested heavily in technology over the last few years, transforming the service and increasing our transparency to the public. We have personal issue body worn video, mobile data devices and, increasingly, laptops. We have fully embedded Microsoft 365 (as confirmed by Police Digital Service). This will give us ongoing and developing business systems; costs are significant but, as the pandemic showed, it is not possible to deliver a world class service without effective business communications.
- We will also be rolling out national ICT programmes, including the single online home which will allow everyone greater access to police services and local policing contact details.
- Next year will see the delivery of the new operational system Niche. This will open the door to significant improvements in core crime and intelligence recording processes. It will also give a step change in operational systems being available on mobile devices, increasing visibility of our front line officers.
- Existing investments in new information systems will form the bed rock of improved business processes. Fleet tracking system data for example will be made available to commanders, allowing better oversight of vehicle visibility and deployment.

- There is already much activity going on within our environmental and sustainability including the development of a regional environmental procurement strategy. Most importantly this will develop our commitment to the UN sustainability goals; it will also put us in good stead to meet future environmental reporting requirements.
- Roads policing remains a priority; additional officers have been allocated and I look forward to the reduction in harm that will be instigated by the Vision Zero programme you are leading to massively invigorate road safety partnership work across the force area.
- Robotic Process Automation is a step change in business process efficiency and a few forces have successfully trailed its implementation, saving money, improving data quality and releasing staff for other functions. We are about to embark on the same journey, and this will be an important driver of efficiency gains over the next three year.
- The budget proposal also includes additional contributions to south west regional functions – including the regional organised crime and forensic units. It is clear over the next few years operational activity will be increasingly co-ordinated across the area, working across five forces and the regional specialist organisations. An example is the operation Scorpion approach to drug dealing and anti-social drug activity being developed across the region.

I believe the proposed base budget puts us in a good position to meet the challenges of the next three years.

### **Budget Detail**

I also want to take this opportunity to assure you on the robustness of the budget proposal I am making. As is usual, the preparation has been undertaken with full liaison between our respective 151 officers and with full regards to funding announcements.

My budget proposal for 2022/2023 is detailed in the Medium Term Financial Strategy document produced to accompany this letter. Key cost drivers (other than uplift) are as usual pay change costs including increments; the end of the pay cap on police and staff salaries have been reflected in the estimates. The national increase in employers' national insurance of 1.25% (£2.4m) has also been budgeted for.

The three year funding envelope announced in December provides for all the funding of the last year of uplift in the 2022/23 financial year. In reality, costs will be spent over a longer period. Our respective finance officers have worked together to ensure the budget is structured to reflect this without creating financial cliff edges. This protects us from significant cuts in service in future years. Details are included in the Medium Term Plan; the mechanism assumes some support from one off funding from the 2021/2022 financial year.

As well as increased pay costs, the budget includes some significant inflationary costs. Even when a reduction in fossil fuel usage as a result of changes in ways of working is taken into account, gas, electricity and fuel costs have increased by extraordinary

amounts. Increases in third party costs are also significant. Forensics supplier and custody healthcare provider contracts, which have been vulnerable to contract failures from difficulties in retaining staff, are currently being renewed. It is anticipated that costs will rise significantly to maintain these vital services.

Robustness also means having sustainable financial structures in place. The proposal includes additional revenue funding for ICT and related short-term assets, and for the cessation of capital grant.

Whilst certainty around funding has improved, other budget uncertainties do remain. The Home Office has been clear it will review the police funding formula within the life of this parliament which could lead to changes in the allocation between forces. No assumptions about the formula review have been included in my proposal; whilst a review of the funding formula could benefit Devon and Cornwall and we are both working to ensure that is the case, we know from the past that cannot be guaranteed.

Cost risks also remain – the most significant one being the pay award where a 1% additional award would cause a £4m unfunded cost in following years. We have made appropriate estimates for pay and undertaken scenario modelling on this key variable. Pay awards in excess of estimates may mean revisiting savings plans.

The uplift grant means that officer numbers have to be maintained during the three year settlement. This focusses any savings needed to meet shortfalls predominantly to police staff costs. In practice, this may mean putting police officers into roles currently filled by police staff.

My budget proposal makes sensible assumptions around future costs and financing, adjusts for the front loading of grant, makes full allowance for uplift numbers and adjusts for full year effect of previous years' investment and removes one off funding requirements for that year.

## **Conclusion**

Your ambitious Police and Crime Plan, based upon local engagement and consultation, sets a challenge for the force and partners to deliver local needs and national requirements. It builds upon previous investments and delivery by the force on previous expectations. It would be wrong to suggest that I have always achieved that expectation and one of the key areas of demand seen here, as in other forces, is the accessibility of policing services and the effect within the criminal justice system. The latter is a focus nationally and within the Beating Crime Plan and the government is also focusing upon public contact arrangements nationally.

In spite of these challenges, our collective response during the pandemic, staycations, and international events, the force has remained one of the lowest crime areas in the United Kingdom. This is undoubtedly due to the sustained investment in the force and the approach of the force in working in partnership with partners and taking a long-term prevention approach.

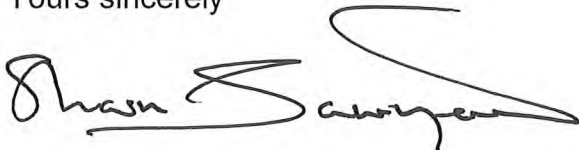


This budget proposal will enable the force to build on a strong legacy with an additional focus on community problem solving, protecting the most vulnerable and proactively targeting people of violence in our communities and homes. This is intended to be the best of policing, building on our history of neighbourhood policing but also using proactive operations and technologies to make this area of the country the most challenging for criminals to operate in.

My budget proposal outlines a range of expenditure designed to meet the Police and Crime Plan's requirement in respect of tackling violence, drug misuse, anti-social behaviour and improve road safety. It also supports the force's mission to detect and prevent harm, protect the vulnerable and reduce crime.

As well as new expenditure, this letter outlines the investments already made and the strength that gives us over the next Medium-Term Plan. If you support us with the full £10 increase to meet the operational budget requirement in 2022/2023 and beyond, we will see a further increase in officer numbers of 188. The result will be that next year we will have the best ICT and equipment we have ever had, we will see police staff numbers back at pre austerity numbers, and we will see police officer numbers the highest they have ever been.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shaun Sawyer', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

**Shaun Sawyer QPM**  
**Chief Constable**





# Commissioning Intentions plan 2022/23

Aligning spending to Police and Crime Plan objectives

**Safe** | **Resilient** | **Connected**

# Strategic commissioning to achieve the Police and Crime Plan Priorities

The commissioning intentions plan for 2022/23 details the range of commissioning undertaken to support the delivery of the Commissioner's statutory duties and the priorities within the Police and Crime Plan 2021/25. Therefore, the five priorities of this commissioning intentions plan are as follows:

- **Violence**
- **Anti-social behaviour**
- **Drugs**
- **Road Safety**
- **Victim Services**

The term 'commissioning' is the cycle of assessing need and, where identified, designing and securing the appropriate service to respond. To mirror good commissioning practice observed in other commissioning authorities, the Commissioner is committed to reducing short term funding, in favour of longer-term sustainable funding which forms the basis of our commissioning framework.

## Commissioning framework

The framework consists of five commissioning schemes and their objectives, outlined below:

Scheme	Objectives
A) Victim Services	Enables the Commissioner to fulfil her statutory duty to commission local victim services.
B) The Police and Crime Commissioner's Impact Scheme	The Commissioner's Impact Scheme supports the Commissioner by identifying and funding services, projects and approaches which help to deliver the police and crime plan priorities. The objective of the scheme is to achieve longer-term impact in local areas by offering sustainability, durability and a shared commitment to achieving impact through commissioning.
C) The Police and Crime Commissioner's Community Grant Scheme	Allocation of small yearly grants to the voluntary and community sector to implement place-based services that address local priorities and police and crime plan themes.
D) Pooled Budget for Youth Offending Teams	Makes core funding available to enable the delivery of Youth Offending Teams across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly
E) Evidence-based Practice Scheme	Enables investment in evidence-based practice to reduce crime and improve community confidence. Funding is ring-fenced to support evidence-based practice and to build a foundation of research which helps to influence commissioning decisions, service delivery and strategic objectives.



## The 2022/23 commissioning budget

For the next financial year 2022/23, the total commissioning budget across the OPCC is £7,985,039 which works on the assumption that the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) Grant for Victim Services (not released at the time of writing) is the same as the previous year.

The budget is made up of a £4,140,000 commissioning grant allocated directly by the Commissioner for the purpose of commissioning services for the benefit of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of

Scilly, £2,845,039 from the MoJ Victim Services Grant, which includes the Childhood Sexual Abuse (CSA) and Childhood Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Grant, additional funding for Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVAs), Critical Support Fund for Victims and Keyham Victim Support funding and £1,000,000 for the Serious Violence Prevention Programme which was announced in February 2020 by the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable.

	2021-22	2022-23
Police and Crime Commissioner Commissioning Budget	£4,043,000 (Included £300,000 uplift)	£4,140,000 (Including £200,000 uplift)**
MoJ Victim and Witness Grant (CSACSE Grant)	£3,215,385*	£2,845,039
Serious Violence Budget	£1,000,000	£1,000,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>£8,258,385</b>	<b>£7,985,039</b>

\*Included the following additional funding; £305,403 Ministry of Justice Covid Uplift Fund, £570,599 additional Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVA) and Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA) funding, £96,543 Covid Critical Support Fund and £182,721 Keyham Victim Support Fund.

\*\* The Commissioner has drawn down £200,000 from reserves to support the continuation of the domestic abuse perpetrator scheme for 2022/23 only.

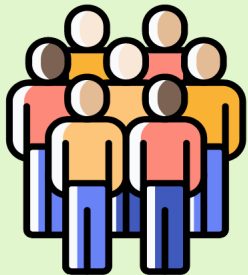
# Commissioning achievements



Number of victims supported:

- **20,023** referrals to Victim Care Network in 2020/21- averaging **1,669** a month
- **27,003** contacts made with victims in 2020/21
- **74,734** victim-based crimes recorded in Devon and Cornwall in 2020/21

**549** people responsible for harm supported by our commissioned services in last 12 months



**33** community support services available to victims

**592** young people supported by diversionary services



**23%** increase in victims on previous 12 months (based on Victim Care Unit figures)

**£1,572,661** of additional investment from OPCC funding bids in 2021/22

**£2,967,732** total value of 10 partnership bids involving the OPCC in 2021/22

## Community grant scheme outcomes

- Cornwall Community Foundation - 11 applications to the value of **£40,163**. Six projects were funded in full and three part-funded to total value of **£26,087**
- Devon Community Foundation - 34 applications to the value of **£136,566**. Thirteen projects funded to total value of **£50,929**





## Testimonial from Victim Support – Strategic Delivery Partner for Victim Services

*“The first year of the Strategic Delivery Partnership has been incredibly positive from Victim Support’s perspective. We have listened to victims and providers, learning about excellent support that is being delivered and using a restorative lens to assess impact and identify areas for improvement. We have established shared values and ways of working as a Strategic Delivery Partner to the OPCC, as well as the commissioner of services provided by the Victim Care Network.*

*“Our approach has been to continue to support organisations on the Network to deliver services whilst identifying and filling gaps in provision, for example commissioning Disability Cornwall to compliment the work of Living Options Devon. In listening to victims, we understand the value of involving those with lived experience and ensuring that people are not ‘done to’ but are supported and empowered.*

*“We are, together, shaping a vision for future services that are trauma-informed, victim-led and available to everyone affected by crime. This desire to respond and innovate was demonstrated through a Theory of Change workshop at our summer (in person) network event attended by over 75% of the Network providers. This identified future opportunities such as a single needs assessment, shared training and capacity building opportunities. The Network is on course to support more victims this year than ever before.”*

*“The strength of the Partnership was demonstrated in the summer of 2021 after the tragic murders in Keyham. In our role as Strategic Delivery Partner, we were able to represent charities supporting those affected at strategic meetings led by Plymouth City Council. This enabled us to support the OPCC to successfully bid for over £300,000 of additional funding which we distributed through grants to existing Network members such as Young Devon as well as new Network member Jeremiah’s Journey. This was an excellent example of how our role was able to add capacity and strength to the system of providers ultimately resulting in better support for those affected.*

*“The most significant factor in the success of this year has been the shared focus and commitment to providing the best possible service to those affected by crime across the peninsula. This clarity of vision, not just between Victim Support and the OPCC but across all the organisations supporting victims of crime, makes us incredibly excited about the future for this innovative partnership.”*

**Zoe Byrne - Services Director - South and Wales**

# Police and Crime Plan Commissioning Priorities

## Violence

Violence remains one of the biggest challenges we face, and we know that supporting families and young people affected by violence reduces the chances of those people becoming victims or perpetrators of violence later in life. The four-year, £1m a year Serious Violence Prevention Programme takes a public health approach to preventing and tackling the forms of violence most evident across the region and in our communities. The Strategic Needs Assessment commissioned by the programme highlights a broad range of interconnected risk factors that face a number of children and young people across the peninsula and which present opportunities for targeted prevention work.

### Serious Violence Programme – Strategic Objectives

Our overarching objective is to break the cycle of violence, and we seek to do this by focusing on three strategic priorities:

**People:** providing quality support available for individuals involved in, or on the edge of violence and which improves their life chances. This will include activity to reach the following outcomes:

- Improved life outcomes and reduced recidivism rates for individuals at the highest risk of violence.
- More young people who have been exposed to violence (including as victims) provided with a quality diversion or intervention with a reduction in use of poorly evidenced responses (e.g. school exclusions).
- More young people who are vulnerable are provided with resilience building opportunities.

**Partners:** preparing the partnership to work together to meet the forthcoming Serious Violence Duty through sharing accountability, data, and expertise. This will include activity to reach the following outcomes:

- Partners increasingly come together to work as a system, exhausting all options when an individual is facing crisis.
- Partners are better equipped, able to identify people at risk and take responsibility in addressing them.
- Practitioners are trained to recognise and respond to trauma and adverse childhood experiences (ACE) in their own settings and are transparent in their outcomes.

**Places:** scaling evidence-based approaches that meet local needs and address local gaps. This will include activity to reach the following outcomes:

- 'Hotspot' institutions and places are identified and supported through a mix of prevention and disruption activities.
- Launch of local strategies that identify priorities and monitor the implementation of mitigation efforts.

- Improved community awareness of how violence manifests itself and what local support is available to address it.

The Commissioner and Chief Constable continue to commit £1,000,000 funding for the serious violence prevention programme in 2022/23 and plan the following **new** services which will support the Commissioner's commitment to tackling violence.

New service descriptors	Indicative budget	Objectives/outcomes
Local Partnership Fund	£120,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is of a total of £800k provided between 2022 and 2024 to support Local Authorities and community safety partnerships to meet the programme's strategic priorities and deliver the Serious Violence Duty.</li> </ul>
Force Investment	£259,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the delivery of the Homicide Prevention Strategy, including launching a pilot perpetrator review project (£50k)</li> <li>• Launch the Law Enforcement in Public Health (LEPH) Link (£64k)</li> <li>• Enhance the capacity of diversion and intervention to work with under 25's (£145k)</li> </ul>

## Antisocial behaviour (ASB)



Antisocial behaviour in all its forms is a very visible sign of disorder in our communities and is closely linked to perceptions of safety, satisfaction with the local area as a place to live, and confidence in local services. In its most persistent and serious forms anti-social behaviour can have a significant impact on health and wellbeing.

Our commissioning needs assessment found that a multifaceted approach is needed to tackle ASB which focuses on awareness raising, prevention, intervention and support. The Commissioner therefore commits £480,000 funding to support this priority, with the following new services planned to support this commitment;

- Reclaim town centres for the general public from those undertaking ASB and rebuild public confidence in the public realm to make our city, town and village centres more resilient to ASB
- Ensure that victims of persistent and severe ASB in our communities are heard and know how to get help
- Work with policing and partners to deliver a robust and targeted partnership approach, using the range of powers available to all partners



New service descriptors	Indicative budget	Objectives/outcomes
ASB Youth outreach service to respond to ASB where there are identified areas and times of concern	£250,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent Youth ASB escalating to criminality</li> <li>• Reduce vulnerability to exploitation and abuse</li> <li>• Engage place based, community solutions to tackle local issues</li> <li>• Engage young people in positive engagement opportunities and approaches that draw them away from ASB</li> <li>• Work with young people to design the services and outcomes</li> </ul>
ASB mediation service	£30,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce conflict and prevent escalation to the police</li> <li>• Enable communities to access the self-help tools they need to prevent ASB escalation</li> <li>• Increase options for conflict resolution and crime reduction</li> </ul>
ASB Victim support service	£200,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support people affected by ASB to cope and recover</li> <li>• Provide emotional and practical advice and guidance to enable positive outcomes</li> </ul>

## Drugs

Substance misuse is often linked to an individual's response to a past trauma or other unmet needs. Complexity and vulnerability continue to be increasing themes amongst drug users, with significant cross over in mental health issues, childhood trauma and abuse, domestic abuse, housing difficulties and involvement in the criminal justice system.

There are clear links between substance misuse and other priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan, highlighting the significance of drugs as a cross-cutting theme in crime, policing and criminal justice. This includes links to organised crime, victims, serious violence, child exploitation, road safety and business crime. This commissioning intention plan therefore details the following funding which will

particularly support the Commissioner's commitment to implementing the ADDER approach, which focuses on addiction, diversion, disruption, enforcement and recovery.

Therefore, in 2022/23 the Commissioner makes £334,483 available to co-commission drug treatment interventions which will directly benefit people in the criminal justice system. In the spring of 2022, early scoping work will commence to look at what regional co-commissioning opportunities exist with our criminal justice partners.

This assessment will report through to the regional reducing offending board and from 2023/24 onwards the Commissioner will use this funding to commission with other criminal justice partners. In the interim, this funding will

be used to continue pre-existing pooled budget agreements with Cornwall Council, Plymouth City Council and Devon County Council – offering twelve months of funding into current treatment services whilst the regional commissioning work delivers this

commissioning objective. Funding is also made available to Torbay Council to continue work established in 2021/22 to prevent anti-social behaviour and reduce drug use.

Service Descriptor	Indicative budget	Objectives/Outcomes
Cornwall Council	£130,436	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of the community sentence treatment requirement and community outreach services for criminal justice service users</li> <li>• Prevention of offending through support for criminal justice sanctions</li> <li>• Reductions in substance misuse</li> </ul>
Plymouth City Council	£93, 575	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of drug services through Plymouth City Council Alliance Contracting</li> <li>• Prevention of offending, through multi-needs contracting and local provision</li> </ul>
Devon County Council	£60, 472	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of the Young Persons Substance Misuse Services (Y-Smart)</li> <li>• Prevention of offending</li> <li>• Early intervention for young people / including education</li> </ul>
Torbay Council	£50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuation of work established in 2021/22 to prevent anti-social behaviour and reduce drug use.</li> <li>• Improve community safety</li> <li>• Reduce offending and anti-social behaviour</li> </ul>

## Road Safety

Devon, Cornwall, and the Isles of Scilly has some of the safest roads in the UK, but the effects of every death or serious injury on our roads is devastating for the bereaved, their families and loved ones, and for those who support people who are seriously injured, some of whom may have long-term life-changing injuries.

Our commissioning needs assessment found that the needs of road traffic victims do differ to those of many other crimes. Road crashes are violent, sudden, and often end and devastate lives far too prematurely. Road crash victims are often young leaving devastated parents and siblings. Road crash victims are also parents, leaving children without carers.

The traumatic grief suffered by people bereaved by road crashes can be overwhelming and, in some instances, lead to long-term, negative outcomes, for example conditions such as serious depression and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). As well as traumatic grief, a death on the road can cause serious financial hardship and a death can irrevocably alter a family's future in many ways.



As not all road traffic victims are victims of a crime they are currently excluded from accessing current victim support trauma services. Working in partnership with Vision Zero, this commissioning intention plan will commission a new post collision care offer.

New service descriptors	Indicative budget	Objectives/outcomes
Post Collision Victim Support Offer	To be confirmed from the Vision Zero Partnership	<p>Trauma responsive post collision support enabling those affected to cope and recover</p> <p>Emotional and practical support, including bereavement counselling where required.</p>

## Victim Services

The harm caused by crime can be life-changing and sometimes catastrophic. The impact of the harm caused can often last a whole lifetime and can have a life altering impact as a result of the trauma caused. It is therefore important that people affected by crime of any age, can have access to specialist support in Devon and Cornwall to help them when they need it.

The Commissioner has the responsibility to commission victims' services that support victims to:

- Cope with the immediate impacts of crime
- Recover from the harm experienced
- Provide greater confidence to victims to help support a criminal action

Within our commissioning model, the commissioning of victim care services is contracted to Victim Support our strategic delivery partner for victim services. Having successfully transferred the multi-crime provision to Victim Support in 2021/22, this commissioning intention plan moves to the transition of specialist domestic abuse and sexual violence support services to Victim Support from 2022/23 onwards. As a result, Victim Support will work with Local Authority and NHS England Commissioners to develop a peninsula wide commissioning strategy for support services to prevent duplication, enable system improvement and provide the very best



care for people who need support. In addition, this commissioning intentions plan has identified a budget uplift for Victim Support to implement two new services. One for children who witness domestic abuse and one for police officers and police staff who experience this form of harm but feel inhibited in accessing support because of their professional status.

This commissioning intention plan therefore details the following budget milestone for Victim Support and the planned new victim care support services being developed in 2022/23.

New service descriptors	Indicative budget	Objectives/outcomes
Specialist Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Services	£1,357,305	<p>Support to help people affected by domestic abuse and sexual violence cope and recover</p> <p>Trauma informed services for victims of reported and non-reported crime</p> <p>Trauma therapy, emotional and practical support and risk planning</p>
Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Specialist Support Budget Uplift	£342,167	<p>Support for children witnessing domestic abuse</p> <p>Specialist support for police officers and police staff who have experienced domestic abuse, sexual violence, harassment and abuse</p> <p>Increased budget to respond to known demand and increased need</p>



# Commissioning 2022/23 overview

**11** new initiatives and contracts planned  
**£462,467** increase in commissioning budget for people affected by domestic violence and sexual abuse  
**£784,920** new investment for victims



## Additional commissioning burdens and requirements:

- Victim Support for young people who witness domestic abuse
- Increased financial support for the new Sexual Assault Referral Centre
- Serious Violence Duty

## Core Commissioning Information

This Commissioning Intentions Plan sets out the Commissioner's approach for making decisions about which interventions will be commissioned, and the approach used for updating existing service specifications or creating new ones. It is intended to ensure funding is allocated fairly and proportionately, with due regard to the competing demands on available funding to provide the most effective, fair and sustainable use of resources for specialised services.

To achieve this, the commissioning team conduct an initial assessment of need, drawing together information from multiple sources of data available from our partners, strategic assessments, national and local data sources, public surveys and the views of people who will use the service. The next phase results in the commissioning team writing the specifications for a new service and beginning the procurement process. During this phase, if services

are decommissioned due consideration is given to accessibility, equality impact and unintended consequences, identifying actions and activities to mitigate risk and safely end services.

The Commissioner will not generally commission any services outside the Commissioning Intentions Plan, although the exact details of service provision may vary in line with the nature of the funding streams advertised and the priority identified. Where there is an emerging issue this will be considered on its merits and a specific decision made and published. Likewise, the Commissioner will not provide direct grant funding to community initiatives from commissioning resources which are outside this plan. Community organisations and initiatives will benefit from the community grant scheme which will be advertised each year, so organisations who wish to seek grant funding from the Commissioner will have a fair, equitable and transparent opportunity to receive funding. The details of grants made will be published each year on our website.

In addition, the Commissioner may also allocate funds from the Property Act using the Property Act Fund process and may allocate further funds to wider grant making organisations to support delivery of crime prevention in local communities.

### National Services

There are many incredible national organisations working to support policing and criminal justice matters in the United Kingdom. Unfortunately, there is insufficient funding to support the number of requests the Commissioner receives each year.

To make our position fair and transparent the Commissioner will only fund national charitable organisations whose aims align with the national portfolios taken by the Commissioner and the Chief Constable or where there is a national agreement which identifies schemes which all Commissioners should make a financial contribution to. In 2022/23 the Police and Crime Commissioner is national lead for road safety and local policing and the Chief Constable is national lead for modern slavery and police cadets.

### Accessibility Statement

Access to services, promoting equality and addressing inequalities are the focus of the Commissioner's commissioning intentions plan. Throughout the development of the service specifications and processes cited in this document, the OPCC has given due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity, and to foster good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic (as cited under the Equality Act 2010) and those who do not share it.

## Detailed Budget Overview

This section provides a comprehensive break down of our commissioning spend, including new services and existing financial commitments.

Victim and Witness Services	2022/23 budget	Provider(s)	Details
Strategic Delivery Partner - Victim Services	£1,200,000	Victim Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multi-crime provision to include restorative justice, young victim of crime service, multi-crime provision (including support 24/7 webchat and helpline), and services which will enable effective engagement for people with protected characteristics.</li> </ul>
Strategic Delivery Partner – Uplift for Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Funding	£342,167	Victim Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To commission a new service for young people who have witnessed domestic abuse as per Domestic Abuse Act 2021</li> <li>To commission a new victim support service for police officers and staff affected by domestic abuse and sexual violence</li> <li>To increase investment into local support services for people affected by domestic abuse and sexual abuse where demand has risen.</li> </ul>
Strategic Delivery Partner - Specialist Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Services	£1,357,305	Victim Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grant provision for specialist victim network provision for victims of sexual violence and domestic abuse, including Local Authority commissioned support services where required.</li> </ul>
Strategic Delivery Partner Local Commissioning for victims of Keyham shooting	£89,201	Victim Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ring fenced funding from the Ministry of Justice to support victims of the Plymouth shooting at Keyham to include the provision of trauma counselling for children and adults, 1-2-1 practical and emotional support and coordination</li> </ul>



## Victim and Witness services (cont)

Strategic Delivery Partner - CSA/E funding from Victims Grant	£142,834	Victim Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ring fenced funding from the Ministry of Justice to be spent on adults and children affected by sexual abuse and sexual exploitation</li> </ul>
ISVA/IDVA funding from Victims Grant	£573,743	First Light, Cornwall Council, Devon County Council, Torbay Council, Plymouth City Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ring fenced funding from the Ministry of Justice to provide independent sexual violence advisors and independent domestic violence advisors</li> </ul>
ISVA Funding from Critical Support Fund	£121,976	First Light	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ring fenced funding from the Ministry of Justice to provide additional independent sexual violence advisors needed as a result of Covid-19 pressures.</li> </ul>
ISVA Service	£284,079	First Light	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVAs) advocate on behalf of victims, providing help and support through the criminal justice system.</li> <li>NHS England provide £202,199 of additional funding towards this service.</li> </ul>
Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)	£197,000	NHS England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A SARC is a special facility where victims of rape or sexual assault can receive immediate help and support, including forensic examinations. The Devon and Cornwall policing area has SARCs in Truro, Plymouth and Exeter.</li> <li>From October 2022 a new SARC contract will be commissioned and as result a financial assessment was conducted which detailed a cost increase to be met by the Commissioner for the period October 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.</li> <li>This budget includes spending on forensic regulation costs, enhancements, standards and quality assurance.</li> </ul>

**Victim and Witness services (cont)**

Victim Care Unit	£505,230	Devon and Cornwall Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All police officers attending or dealing with a crime undertake a victim needs assessment and to refer people who need support to the Victim Care Unit (VCU) which is based in Devon and Cornwall Police. This enables caseworkers to contact those victims to make a fuller assessment and make referrals to victim service providers. The unit also employs specialist Victim Care Advocates and a qualified mental health practitioner who work intensively through outreach with victims and their families with the most complex needs.</li> <li>The financial provision for this service breaks down as follows £450k for staffing costs, £20,700 for the employment of a senior mental health professional part time and £34,528 for functional costs such as specialist IT provision.</li> </ul>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£4,813,535</b>		

PCC's Impact Scheme	2022/23 budget (£1,368,580)	Provider(s)	Details
ASB Youth outreach team	£250,000	TBC  Procurement to commence by April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is a new service that should work to prevent issues escalating into criminality or exploitation, reduce vulnerability, work with communities and young people to engage them in positive opportunities that draw them away from ASB</li> <li>The service should be responsive to seasonality peaks and place-based problems.</li> <li>The service should engage a number of different community solutions and initiatives to leave a local legacy after intense work has been conducted by the outreach team.</li> </ul>
Peninsula wide ASB mediation service	£30,000	TBC Procurement to commence by April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This new service should work to reduce conflict and prevent escalation to the police, enable communities to access the self-help tools they need to prevent ASB escalation, increase options for conflict resolution and crime reduction.</li> </ul>
ASB victim support service	£200,000	Victim Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This new service should support people affected by ASB to cope and recover by providing emotional and practical advice and guidance to enable positive outcomes.</li> </ul>
Funding for drug treatment services for CJ cohort	£334,483	Victim Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This new service should support people affected by ASB to cope and recover by providing emotional and practical advice and guidance to enable positive outcomes.</li> </ul>

## PCC's Impact Scheme (cont)

SW Regional Reducing Reoffending post	£11,500	OPCC Devon and Cornwall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In order to deliver the strategy of the regional reducing offending board partners have committed funds to support this programme of work, including the appointment of a dedicated programme manager to oversee delivery which this funding supports.</li> </ul>
Street Triage	£100,000	Devon Clinical Commissioning Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Street Triage is an ongoing initiative that sees police and mental health services work together to ensure people get appropriate care when police officers are called to respond to a person in crisis. Mental Health professionals working in the police control rooms in Exeter and Plymouth offer immediate advice, jointly make accurate risk assessments and aim to give the right care to the person experiencing a mental health crisis with the aim of police custody being a last resort.</li> <li>The current Street Triage scheme is jointly funded and co-commissioned by Devon and Cornwall Clinical Commissioning Groups and the Commissioner.</li> </ul>
Mental Health Treatment Requirements	£50,000	NHS England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuation funding for MHTR in Cornwall and Plymouth</li> <li>Includes new funding for Devon and Torbay</li> <li>Re-occurring for three years</li> </ul>
Circles of support and accountability for sexual offenders	£44,600	Circles South West	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Circles South West is a charity which works to promote the rehabilitation, treatment, education and care of people who have committed or are likely to commit offences, particularly sexual offences, against others and the families of such people. (Continued on next page)</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circles UK is the national body supporting the development, quality and effectiveness of local circle delivery.</li> <li>• Circles South West complements perpetrator work of South West Community Chaplaincy and the DA Perpetrator Scheme to make a strong offer of support for those who want to change</li> </ul>
Mentoring support provision for sexual offenders	£28,000	South West Community Chaplaincy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This service offers mentoring support to registered sexual offenders, providing Devon and Cornwall Police's Public Protection Team with an intervention that enables motivated offenders who want to change an opportunity to work in a structured mentoring program.</li> <li>• This service addresses needs of offenders with public protection licence conditions, who have finished their licence and are no longer subject to Probation Service supervision, but who remain under the statutory supervision of the Police's Public Protection Unit (PPU) and present a significant risk of reoffending.</li> <li>• This service complements the perpetrator work of Circles South West and the DA Perpetrator Scheme to make a strong offer of support for those who want to change.</li> </ul>
Perpetrator Funding	£300,000	Local Authority Scheme Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2020-21 and 2021-22 the OPCC was awarded £417,395 each year from the Home Office to help perpetrators of domestic abuse confront their behaviour and break the cycle of criminality.</li> <li>• The multi-agency project, managed alongside long-running domestic abuse partners Cornwall Council, Plymouth City Council, Torbay Council and Devon County Council ends in March 2022.</li> </ul>

## PCC's Impact Scheme (cont)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following the evaluation of the scheme, this funding has been allocated to enable the Commissioner to continue elements from this scheme which show best value and evidence of impact.</li> </ul>
Local Criminal Justice Board Budget	£20,000	Local Criminal Justice Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Criminal Justice Boards (LCJB) in England and Wales were set up in April 2003 to manage the criminal justice system (CJS) at a local level and to ensure all criminal justice agencies are working together to tackle crime.</li> <li>As Chair of the Local Criminal Justice Board the Commissioner recognises the effort and energy of criminal justice partners to work collaboratively across the criminal justice pathways.</li> <li>In recognition the Commissioner will continue to provide £20,000 of financial support to the LCJB to support its effective operation</li> </ul>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,368,583</b>		

Serious Violence Prevention Programme	2022/23 budget (£1,000,000)	Provider(s)	Details
Staffing Costs	£196,000	Devon and Cornwall Police and Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In addition to the existing team which includes a Programme Director, a Programme Support Officer (0.5FT) and a Strategic Partnerships Analyst (0.5FT) the programme will recruit a Communications and Engagement Officer and increase the capacity of the Strategic Partnerships Analyst to a full-time position from 2022/23 onwards.</li> </ul>
Force Investments	£259,000	Devon and Cornwall Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As part of the joint Force/ OPCC programme, the Serious Violence Prevention programme will:</li> <li>Support the delivery of the Homicide Prevention Strategy, including launching a pilot perpetrator review project (£50k)</li> <li>Launch the Law Enforcement in Public Health (LEPH) Link (£64k)</li> <li>Enhance the capacity of diversion and intervention to work with under 25's (£145k)</li> </ul>
Database of assault related injuries from accident and emergency	£20,000	Linxs Consultancy Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding towards the database of Assault Related Injuries drawn from A&amp;E and some major incident units circulated across peninsula partners on a weekly/ monthly basis.</li> </ul>
Local Partnership Fund	£120,000	Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This represents the total investment between 2022 and 2024 to support local authorities and community safety partnerships to meet the programme's strategic priorities and deliver the Serious Violence Duty.</li> </ul>

## Serious Violence Prevention Programme (cont)

Restorative Justice Family Workers	£80,000	Victim Support Commissioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restorative Justice Family Workers continue to work in Plymouth/Torbay with successful support provided to offenders, victims, and their families. The two workers are co-located to support and receive referrals from across partners including health, education and the police.</li> </ul>
Keyham Legacy	£25,000	TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional funding set aside to consider an extension of certain activity and / or additional evaluation following the Home Office Keyham Community Policing Grant of £514k being delivered in 2022/23</li> </ul>
Turning Corners	£225,000	Teignbridge District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turning Corners is a multi-agency, partnership approach to reduce the risk of young people in Devon becoming involved in violence, anti-social behaviour and crime through early intervention and prevention.</li> <li>Turning Corners started work under the programme in 2020/21 and will continue to work on interventions until 2024/25, subject to satisfactory progress being made, at an annual cost of £225,000 per annum.</li> <li>The Three elements of the programme include 1. Parental Support Groups which will provide support to parents where there are concerns about a risk of offending behaviour for their child. 2. Moving up together to ensure a successful transition between primary and secondary schools, where needs are understood and recognised, and young people and their families receive the support they need to engage with school...(Continues next page)</li> </ul>



## Serious Violence Prevention Programme (cont)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(From previous page) ... 3. Outreach &amp; prevention whereby young people can be signposted or hand-held to engage with services around violence prevention.</li> </ul>
Community Support	£45,000	The Dracaena Centre and Elemental UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Dracaena Centre is a community centre operating as a charity serving Falmouth and Penryn as well as surrounding rural areas. In 2019/20 about 50,000 attendees accessed the centre supporting the Serious Violence Prevention Programme.</li> <li>The Centre offers activities for 6 to 12-year-olds delivering training, wellbeing and health &amp; exercise classes.</li> <li>Elemental UK works in partnership with the Dracaena Centre helping young people to increase their confident levels, self-esteem and push themselves out of their comfort zones in a safe and exciting environment, using activities such as kayaking, canoeing, windsurfing, raft building, coasteering and much more.</li> <li>The Dracaena Centre and Elemental UK are commissioned to provide intervention services in Cornwall at a cost of £40,000 per year until 2022.</li> </ul>
Emerging Priorities	£30,000	TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unallocated project budget for emerging priorities and identified need</li> </ul>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,000,000</b>		

PCC's Community Grant Scheme	2022/23 budget (£242,224)	Provider(s)	Details
Brake	£5,000	National Charity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Devon and Cornwall Police operates a Family Liaison Officer service where specially trained officers provide support to victims and their families in the aftermath of a collision.</li> <li>Brake provides a road victims helpline and an information pack, which is provided to the Police's Family Liaison Officers to guide families through the aftermath of a crash information.</li> </ul>
Unseen	£5,000	National Charity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unseen is a national charity that is working to end modern slavery, concentrating their effort on three main areas – supporting, equipping and influencing.</li> <li>Unseen also provides direct support to survivors, giving them a safe place to recover from trauma and a place to rebuild their lives. Unseen also works to influence the systems that keep slavery hidden and set up the anti-slavery partnership.</li> <li>This financial support is in recognition of the important role it plays locally (and nationally) in supporting victims of modern day slavery through the National Modern-Day Slavery Helpline</li> </ul>
National Chaplaincy	£1,724	National Police Provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Since 2016 all commissioners contribute through a five-year national agreement to the appointment of a centrally funded, full time, national Police Chaplain who is responsible for the development and management of Police Chaplaincy across the country. (Continues next page)</li> </ul>

## PCC's Community Grant Scheme (cont)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chaplaincy is a vital part of police wellbeing and provides confidential personal, spiritual and practical care to police officers, staff and their families; operational support and provides links with communities and response to major-critical incidents.</li> </ul>
National Rural Crime Network	£2,000	National Provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The rural crime network is a national body that brings together Commissioners, the police, rural interest bodies and other key partners to better understand the policing and crime related challenges facing rural communities and to work together to raise awareness, seek changes at the national level.</li> </ul>
Police Dog Pensions	£2,000	Pawsome Pensions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pawsome Pensions is a charity that has been set up to help support retired police dogs from Devon, Dorset &amp; Cornwall Police services and Fire dogs from Devon &amp; Somerset Fire and Rescue Services. This funding is used to ensure the dogs receive the best veterinary care possible, ensuring they have an excellent quality of life in their retirement years.</li> </ul>
ASB Awareness	£2,000	TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding for an awareness raising campaign to increase the public understanding of ASB, how to report it and the community trigger process, to include multiagency workforce development training event(s).</li> </ul>
Regional coordination of crime prevention initiatives	£17,000	CrimeStoppers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding for CrimeStoppers to recruit a regional coordinator to implement crime prevention initiatives and support communication and coordination of our local CrimeStoppers scheme.</li> </ul>

## PCC's Community Grant Scheme (cont)

Community Watch	£25,000	Our Watch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12 months' funding for neighbourhood coordinator.</li> <li>Coordination of volunteers and community watch stakeholders</li> </ul>
Community Grants	£182,500	Devon Community Foundation  Cornwall Community Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding for two rounds of community grant funding through both community foundations.</li> <li>Twice a year the Commissioner, evidenced by local need, will identify the theme of these available grants. These themes are based on current circumstances and will not generally be decided in advance for the whole year.</li> </ul>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£242,224</b>		

PCC's Evidence Based Practice Scheme	2022/23 budget (£60,000)	Provider(s)	Details
Evaluation and analysis budget	£30,000	Various	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committed funding in 2022/23 includes £1,500 for a PhD Student to evaluate Youth Engagement and Diversion Scheme in Plymouth, £15k for a regional researcher/policy post attached to the regional reoffending board, £2,500 OPCC Lived Experience Advisor Expenses and £10,000 to evaluate sexual abuse commissioned mediation service.</li> </ul>
Seed funding for an evidence-based practice partnership	£30,000	TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating a new partnership involves time, energy and resources. Yet the benefits of an effective evidence-based practice partnership are clear. We can expect a successful partnership of this nature to encourage experimentation, exploration, efficiency and effective practice. Using this investment, the OPCC hopes to attract match funding from our local universities and social research organisations to implement a formal learning partnership focused on the development and implementation of evidence-based practice.</li> </ul>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£60,000</b>		

Youth Offending Team Funding	2022/23 budget (£500,000)	Provider(s)	Details
Cornwall Youth Offending Service	£160,224	Cornwall Youth Offending Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Youth Offending Service (YOS) works with young people who get into trouble and require police intervention. Its primary role is to reduce or prevent further offending. The four Youth Offending Teams (YOT) for Cornwall, Devon, Plymouth and Torbay are part of the respective Local Authorities and are separate from the police and probation arrangements. The teams consist of multi-agency staff with backgrounds in policing, social work, education, probation and health. Funding for the YOS across all agencies continues to be under significant pressure.</li> <li>Across the peninsula the Commissioner's contribution is part of a pooled budget agreement with local authorities, clinical commissioning groups, Devon and Cornwall Police, National Probation Service and the Youth Justice Board which is renewed annually.</li> </ul>
Torbay Youth Offending Team	£65,091		As above
Plymouth Youth Offending Team	£85,119		As above
Devon Youth Offending Team	£190,266		As above
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£500,700</b>		

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## APPENDIX 4

## Budget Risk Assessment 2021/22

	Annual Budget	Detail	Mitigation
Funding Formula	£217.4m (Core Grant)	The review has now started. The review of the funding formula will look at the way in which the grant is distributed. In a previous attempt to review the formula D&C were significantly adversely affected.	Active engagement in the consultation process. Influencing of central government.
Council Tax Funding	£154.2m	Due to the COVID 19 pandemic the council tax funding has been volatile with an increase in the number of council tax payers requiring Council Tax Support.	Active engagement with the collecting authorities to ensure early sight of issues and problems. Spreading the support from the government for council tax over three years to mitigate future risk. Use of general balances if required.
National ESN Project	£10m	The national ICT programme includes the ESN project to replace the Airwave system. The costs of this project have been estimated at £10m for D&C. However, due to delays this could impact on the overall cost. There are also concerns over the ability of the project to deliver the operational requirements.	A national review of the programme is currently being undertaken. A reserve of £10m is being held to fund this project.
Future Capital funding		The allocation of grant for capital schemes has ceased. Once the ability to generate capital receipts reduces this will mean insufficient funds are available.	A proactive development approach to the disposal of assets to maximise capital receipts. Increasing the level of revenue contribution to capital by £1m per year over the life of the MTFS.
Increase in pay award above assumptions	£3m	The level pay award cannot be guaranteed as it is agreed nationally. This is an area of concern due to the fact that 84% of the overall budget relates to staffing. The pause on pay awards has now been lifted.	The agreed pay award comes into effect part way through a financial year. Therefore, the immediate effect is reduced and provides time to build in the permanent increase into the MTFS. The MTFS assumptions are continually reviewed to ensure they are realistic.
Core Grant Assumptions	£217.4	The assumptions in changes in the level of core grant are reassessed annually. The indicative levels in the three year spending review aid planning significantly.	The increases are reassessed annually.
Council Tax Assumptions	£154.2m	The assumptions of the level of council tax, tax base increases and surpluses are considered carefully. The tax base is based on proposed housing building levels and surpluses are based on historical trends.	The level of council tax, tax base increases and surpluses are reviewed annually. The tax base and surpluses are also tested at intervals during the financial year. The three year settlement has aided planning by announcing the council tax referendum limits over its life.
Special and Specific Grants	£6.5m	The pensions grant of £3.3m and part of the uplift grant of £3.2m continue to be awarded on a year by year basis. This poses a risk to long term certainty of these funding streams.	We will work with national groups to ensure this issue is taken into account and fully considered by the Treasury.
National Commitments		With the cessation of the Police Transformation fund there is a risk there will be a transfer of responsibility from the centre for national priorities that move to business as usual within force areas.	Actively engaging with the exit strategies for national projects. Engagement with national teams.

Pension Revaluations	Unknown	The Police Officer and Police Staff pension schemes are subject to triennial valuations. The employer rate can change depending on this valuation. These revaluations are especially susceptible to increases due to the increased pension remedy costs as a result of the McCloud judgement.	The police officer pension and the Police Staff pension are due to be revalued during the life of this MTFS. Progress on this will be carefully monitored.
Grant Income		Grant income is available to the OPCC and the Force on a regular basis. This can come from a variety of funding streams e.g. Police Transformation Fund. The grant will be subject to a grant agreement.	The approval of a grant must be authorised by either the OPCC Chief Executive or the OPCC Treasurer. This assures that any grant conditions are not onerous on the organisation. Particular attention if paid to the exit strategy.
Major operations	£2.9m	An annual allocation is included in revenue for the cost of major operations. This is expected to be sufficient in most years. However, in the event of a particularly significant, high profile operation costs could easily exceed the revenue allocation.	Revenue funding. Potential access to Government grant for expenditure in excess of 1% of force budgets, although this cannot be guaranteed.
Uninsured Liabilities and claims	Unknown	The key uninsured liabilities would be those resulting from employment tribunals or other legal challenges. While often low level, these can have the potential to be significant.	Proactive assessment of risk, legal/HR involvement at an early stage.
Treasury Management	Unknown	Devon and Cornwall Police routinely invest funds to optimise return. Such investments will always carry a degree of risk, which is expected to be manageable within the parameters of the Treasury Management Strategy.	Adherence to, and regular review of the Treasury Management Policy.
Other unexpected expenditure/ Working Capital	Unknown	Throughout the year it is usual for expenditure plans to be revised and change, which is all manageable through the usual budget monitoring process. It is equally possible for unplanned requirement to surface outside those already covered e.g. a higher than anticipated number of officers could retire on ill health grounds with associated costs.	Close, accurate budget monitoring throughout the year. Highlighting potential variances as soon as possible.

# **OPCC 2022/23 budget survey results summary**



Using qualitative and  
quantitative research  
methods to inform  
decision making

# Introduction

A survey run by the OPCC over a two-week period from December 23, 2021 to January 9, 2022 collected 5,316 responses from members of the public. Below its results are set against responses from two focus groups made up of Devon and Cornwall residents.



## General qualitative findings

Focus groups achieved general consensus on the following points:

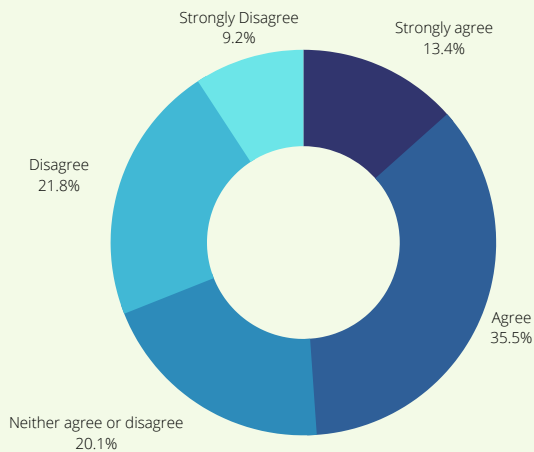
- Participants felt that greater visibility of policing, communication and physical contact with police officers and staff results in:
  - Reduced crime
  - Reduced demand on force contact centres
  - Improved public confidence in Devon and Cornwall Police
  - Improved intelligence flow between communities and police
- Confidence in the 101 non-emergency reporting was generally low, with participants speculating that members of their communities were put off reporting intelligence on low level crime by long wait times. Some felt that this justified greater spending on contact centres while others felt that this was a 'lost cause' and demand on these services would be reduced through greater investment in neighbourhood policing.
- There was widespread recognition of the additional demands placed on policing by Covid-19, the 'summer surge' of visitors in Devon and Cornwall, increased reporting of crime and crimes like cyber crime and domestic abuse, the reporting of which has increased in recent years.
- There was widespread recognition that policing in Devon and Cornwall needed further investment. Policing was a 'tough job' that was highly valued by the public.

- Some participants gave examples of inefficiencies, such as detectives being used as scene guards, officers having to spend time finding a place of safety for mentally unwell members of the public or having to drive miles because of an insufficient number of custody units. It was felt that sometimes these inefficiencies were due to the failure of other agencies and not the fault of the force.
- Participants agreed that a £10 increase in the 'band D' annual police precept would represent an insignificant additional financial burden to Devon and Cornwall households, this was despite discussion about extra financial pressures facing households, such as energy price rises and National Insurance contributions. Energy price rises were deemed a far greater concern than the potential increase in policing precept.
- When asked where they would spend additional revenues all participants agreed that visible neighbourhood policing would be their priority. Several participants said they would invest in additional Police Community Support Officers.
- Participants were divided on police stations being opened to the public with the majority being very supportive of this proposal. Most participants held the view that police stations were essential conduits between the police and public and reopening them to the public would improve trust and communication between the police and their communities. One participant deemed stations 'a thing of the past' and surmised that technology allowing police to do their job while out in the community was of more benefit than static locations.
- Some participants from rural areas felt that crime from rural areas was under-reported because of a lack of a visible police presence. Greater police presence in urban areas of the force would result in more reporting and therefore even more resourcing while rural areas were neglected, despite concerns about crimes like county lines drug dealing, domestic abuse and farm theft in these areas.
- One focus group discussed the Proceeds of Crime Act and Property Act opportunities. There was general agreement that more assets should be seized from criminals and monies obtained spent within communities. These efforts should be supported by a communications strategy with the exercise becoming 'self funding'.
- There was frustration from all participants about the levels of communication from Devon and Cornwall Police. There was a strong desire to hear more about police activity and challenges as well as to hear more 'caught and convicted' success stories from court. There was general agreement that greater communication from the force would result in improved public confidence. Digital communication was felt to exclude an important and significant cohort of people.
- Despite some focus group members being interested in environmental issues, reducing the force's carbon footprint was not deemed a high priority.

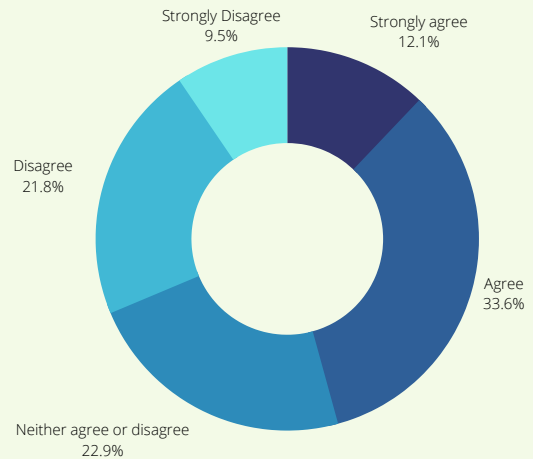
## On confidence and communication

### Our public told us:

'All things considered, I **generally** have confidence in the police?'



'All things considered, I have confidence in **Devon and Cornwall Police**'



### To improve confidence our focus group participants said:

"Meet the public."

"Be more visible in rural areas."

"Meeting the public, allow children to sit in the cars etc. That's how people appreciate what the police are doing. They don't have to see them flying around tackling crime all the time, but to know they're there and start to appreciate what policing is about."

"That documentary series that [the force] did was very good...it must have brought the message home to an awful lot of people."

"You've got to try and get policemen and women to go out there regularly and somehow get some visible presence. When we have a van in my town and officers around I can guarantee that reduces crime."

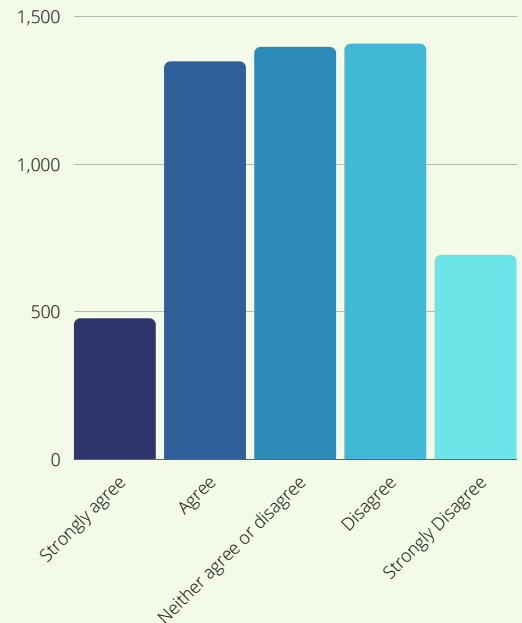
"I think the force very much needs to sell itself to the public in Devon and Cornwall."

"Much more emphasis needs to go on marketing than has done in the past."

## On the police precept:

### Our public told us:

To what extent do you agree that the 2021/22 Devon and Cornwall Police precept represents value for money?



### Our focus group participants said:

"I believe they [the public] are reluctantly prepared to pay it 'cause everything is going up. It's inevitable. But I think they would like to see more bang for their buck."

"I think it's fair to say that no one wants to pay more council tax. We may have to, but 10 pounds [extra] for a year, I think most people will accept that."

"If you opt for a 0% increase it catches you out next time."

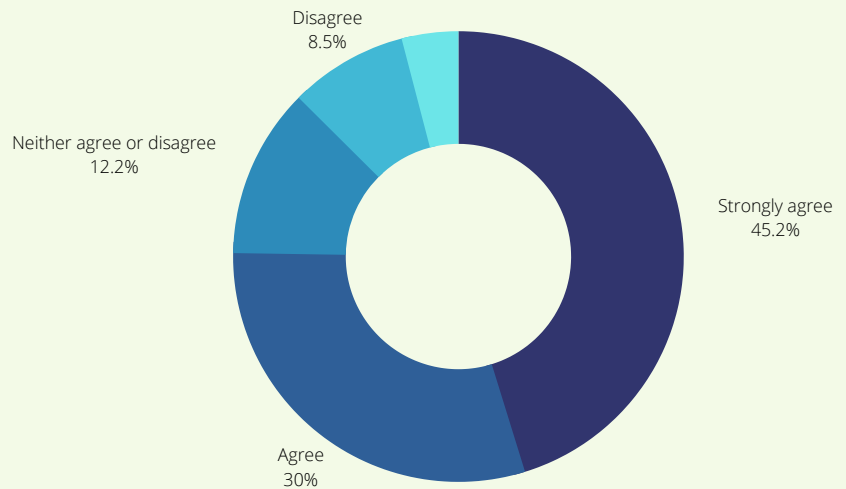
"People are seeing massive increase in food so but no increases in their Universal Credit, whether they work or not. But I think what you're asking for, which is £10, in relation to all that, is actually a drop in the ocean."

"It's £10 a year, then you look at the monthly charge against the price of a cup of coffee, for example. It's negligible and people will quite happily go for a cup of coffee, maybe on a daily basis, even those with very little money. So when you put it that way that for more policing is negligible."

# On reopening police stations to the public:

## Our public told us:

To what extent do you agree that investment should be made to open more police stations to the public?



## Our focus group participants said:

"Some of these police stations to the public should never have been closed in the first place. We lose all the ground intelligence and all the information that people are willing to tell local police officers."

"A lot of elderly residents aren't online, you know. It's the 20% of the older generation who aren't necessarily computer literate. They're also the older generation who tend not to make a fuss."

"If you open the police station, people will report crime."

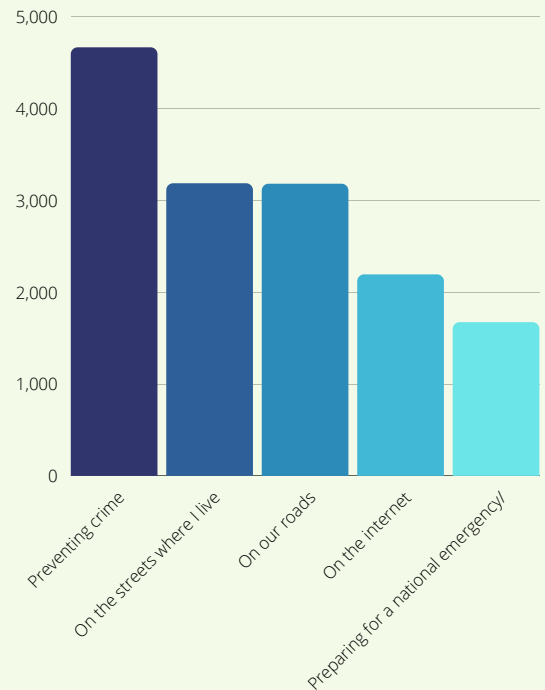
"If you've got the troops, you've got to put them in the right areas, but you must open the police stations for people to go and report things, even if it's only to hand in their documents. Because when you speak to that person you can gather that confidential human intelligence. People want to talk to you and tell you what's going on. If you're not open, it won't happen."



# On areas to invest in:

## Our public told us:

Selecting three areas, where do you perceive that policing needs greater investment?



## Our focus group participants said:

"Three words: communication, efficiency and presence."

"More feet on the ground and better communication."

"They [police] should be able to do virtually everything from their vehicle. That at least would make them more visible during that period. That's out there. And if you're going to give me £19 million, it's not rocket science to work out when your periods of peak demand are a lot more police officers out there."

"I'd be paying overtime to put extra police officers out on the streets and you'd state what's acceptable and unacceptable. So you've got antisocial behaviour. You challenge it, you've got criminal behaviour, you deal with it, and your cells may be full, and the magistrates courts may hate you on the following Monday morning, but you're doing what the public wants."

"I would prioritise making the police visible and that is simply because it will deliver everything that you need. You need the confidence in the police so people can approach them and actually report things. And then the policeman don't refer them on, I want to actually report it [incidents] and then you will also have the police standing there which will make other people think again before they commit crime or antisocial behaviour."

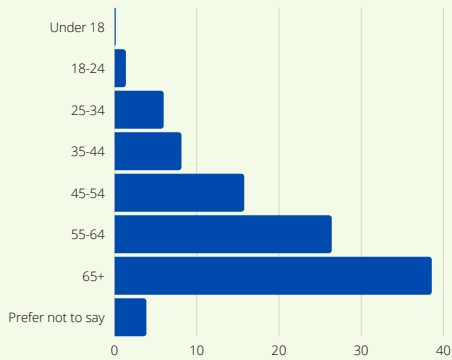
"Visibility, response and admin efficiency, so that the guys aren't doing unnecessary paperwork."

"I'd invest more in the proceeds of crime works so you could get more money and then you could reinvest that money in more crime prevention."

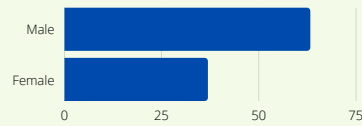
# Who completed our quantitative survey?

The following results are expressed as percentages. The survey was self-selecting and participants were offered the opportunity to skip questions relating to their personal details in line with Market Research Society guidance.

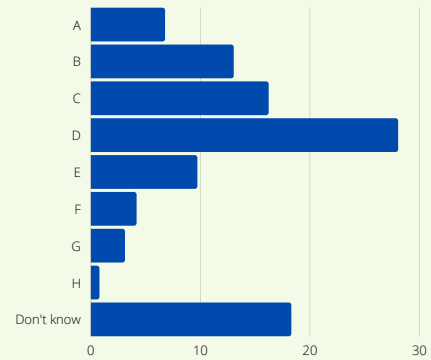
## Age:



## Sex:



## Council tax band



## Ethnicity

White - English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish	88.13
White - Irish	0.92
White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0.35
Any other White background - please specify below	4.52
Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups - White and Black Caribbean	0.09
Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups - White and Black African	0.07
Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups - White and Asian	0.18
Any other Mixed/Multiple ethnic background - please specify below	0.30
Asian/Asian British - Indian	0.14
Asian/Asian British - Pakistani	0.09
Asian/Asian British - Bangladeshi	0
Asian/Asian British - Chinese	0.09
Any other Asian background - please specify below	0.02
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British - African	0.02
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British - Caribbean	0.12
Any other Black/African/Caribbean background - please specify below	0
Other ethnic group - Arab	0.09
Any other ethnic group - please specify below	4.86

## Market Research Society

Industry regulator the Market Research Society (MRS) promotes best practice in market research standards. Both qualitative and quantitative surveys were completed with the assistance of the society and in line with its [Code of Conduct](#).

**GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS**

*The following definitions of technical terms used in these reports may help the general reader:*

<b>ARV</b>	Armed Response Vehicle
<b>BAU</b>	Business As Usual
<b>BWV</b>	Body Worn Video
<b>CDI</b>	Crime Data Integrity
<b>CIPFA</b>	The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, the professional body that sets accounting standards for the public sector.
<b>CJ</b>	Criminal Justice
<b>CPI</b>	Consumer Price Index
<b>CSP</b>	Community Safety Partnership
<b>CSR</b>	Comprehensive Spending Review
<b>CSE</b>	Child Sexual Exploitation
<b>CT</b>	Counter Terrorism
<b>DBS Income</b>	Disclosure and Barring Service Income – Employee checks
<b>DCLG Formula</b>	Department of Communities of Local Government Funding
<b>FMS</b>	Force Management Statement
<b>ERT</b>	Enhanced Records Team
<b>ESN</b>	Emergency Services Network
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>HMICFRS</b>	Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services
<b>HO</b>	Home Office
<b>ICT</b>	Information Communication Technology
<b>ISD</b>	Integrated Service Delivery
<b>LAAP</b>	Local Authority Accounting Panel – which sets accounting rules for the public sector.
<b>LCJB</b>	Local Criminal Justice Board
<b>LGPS</b>	Local Government Pension Scheme
<b>MOJ</b>	Ministry of Justice
<b>MTFS</b>	Medium Term Financial Strategy, this is the financial plan and management of funding, spending and savings over a four year period

**GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS**

*The following definitions of technical terms used in these reports may help the general reader:*

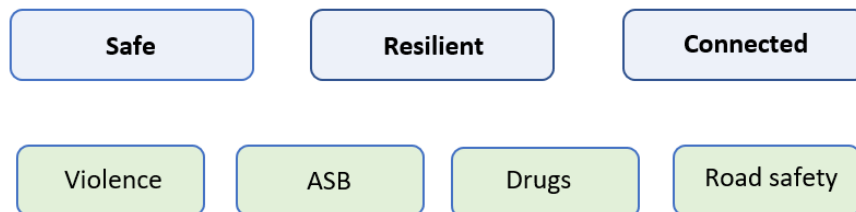
<b>National non-domestic rates (NNDR)</b>	Rates set nationally and paid by local businesses to the Government, then shared by local and police authorities in proportion to their resident population
<b>NAO</b>	National Audit Office
<b>NCA</b>	National Crime Agency
<b>NPAS</b>	National Police Air Service
<b>OBR</b>	Office of Budgetary Responsibility
<b>OCG</b>	Organised Crime Group
<b>OPCC</b>	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
<b>PCC</b>	Police Crime Commissioner
<b>PCSO</b>	Police Support Community Officer
<b>Pension scheme (unfunded)</b>	Members pay a standard contribution each year. The employer then pays the cash difference between members' annual contributions and the annual cost of benefits to contributors and their dependants.
<b>PEQF</b>	Policing Education Qualifications Framework
<b>PFI</b>	Private Finance Initiative
<b>Precept</b>	A levy collected by District and Unitary Councils from council taxpayers on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
<b>ROCU</b>	Regional Organised Crime Units
<b>SOC</b>	Serious and Organised Crime
<b>SODAIT</b>	Sexual Offences and Domestic Abuse Investigation Team
<b>FTE</b>	Full Time Equivalent
<b>UNIT</b>	UNIFI Improvement Team
<b>VZSW</b>	Vision Zero South West



**Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel  
28 January 2022**

**OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:  
Police and Crime Plan 2021-25 Scorecard**

1. 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.



2. In order to monitor the progress of these objectives, the Commissioner has identified a suite of performance metrics. The metrics are published in the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan, and the attached scorecard provides a framework for the Commissioner and Panel to monitor the success and outcomes of the Plan. This scorecard will be presented to the Panel at each meeting.
3. The summary page of the scorecard outlines each measure, demonstrating the metric, the latest data and the direction of travel since the last panel report. 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 – on this occasion June 2021. However, the ONS CSEW measure of public confidence is based on the 12 months to March 2020, which is the most recent data available as face-to-face surveys were suspended during the COVID-19 period and remains unavailable. The telephone survey in its replacement covered a variation of this question, the results of which are only available at a national level.
4. The summary is followed by a detailed analysis of each measure including trend analysis where appropriate. 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.

5. The scorecard includes the National Crime and Policing Measures, as well as local indicators for each priority area. The national measures are clearly identified in the scorecard. The Police and Crime Commissioner has a duty to publish a statement regarding the contribution of the force against the six national priorities with which the national measures are aligned (The Elected Local Policing Bodies [Specified Information] [Amendment] Order 2021). This scorecard provides analysis and data to support the statement which will be published quarterly on the [OPCC Website](#).

**Contact for further information**

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Report prepared 18th January 2022

# Police and Crime Plan Scorecard

**Key** Direction of Travel

(NM): National Measure

- ▲ - Increase
- ▼ - Decrease
- ▶ - Unchanged

Performance Measure	Reported to Nov 21 Panel	Reported to Jan 22 Panel	Change since last Panel
<b>VIOLENCE</b>			
Homicides (NM)	15	19	▲
Hospital admissions of under 25s for assault with a sharp object (NM)	15	15	▶
Offences involving the discharge of a firearm (NM)	80	61	▼
Violent crime (all)	30,030	30,554	▲
Violent crime (DA)	11,119	11,258	▲
Victim satisfaction (DA)	85.2%	85.2%	▶
<b>ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR</b>			
Recorded number of ASB incidents recorded by the Police	38,308	36,601	▼
Recorded number of public order offences	7,896	8,054	▲
<b>DRUGS</b>			
Drug possession offences	3,389	3,356	▼
Drug trafficking offences	1,364	1,294	▼
Organised drug disruptions	300	228	▼
<b>ROAD SAFETY</b>			
Number of fatal casualties	46	46	▶
Number of serious casualties	696	667	▼
Deaths or serious Injuries by high-risk driving behaviour	31	33	▲
Number of Community Speed Watch active schemes	42	33	▼
<b>SAFE</b>			
ONS crime rate	51.0	53.1	▲
Victim based reported crime levels	79,779	80,185	▲
Number of police officers (FTE)	3,273	3,334	▲
Number of recorded hate crimes	2,200	2,309	▲
Number of recorded neighbourhood crimes (NM)	7,612	7,450	▼
<b>RESILIENT</b>			
Number of young people who are victims of crime	8,299	8,487	▲
Overall victim satisfaction (NM)	74.1%	76.6%	▲
<b>CONNECTED</b>			
Number of customer contact points open to the public	10	10	▶
Number of customer contacts (999, 101, Online) *estimated	961,092	956,306*	▼
999 wait time	13 secs	15 secs	▲
101 P1 wait time	6m 17s	8m 59s	▲
101 P2 wait time	15m 35s	20m 26s	▲
Levels of public confidence in the police	77.5%	77.5%	▶
Number of reports made to Devon and Cornwall Police from Crime Stoppers	3,891	4,206	▲

# 1. Violence



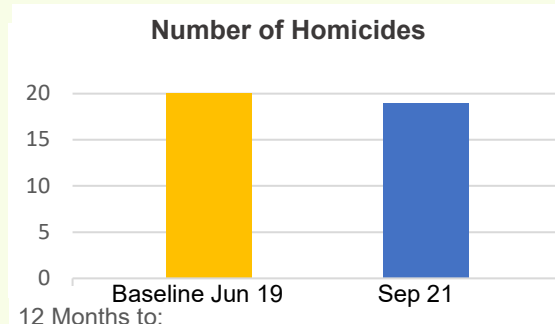
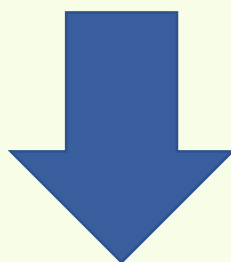
## 1.1 Homicides (National Measure)

12 months  
to June  
2019

**20**

12 months to  
September  
2021

**19**



In the 12 months to September 2021, there were 19 homicides in Devon and Cornwall. This is 1 fewer homicide than reported in the 12 months to June 2019. Whilst the likelihood of becoming a victim of homicide in Devon and Cornwall is extremely low, with a rate of 0.01 per 1000 people, the Commissioner recognises that one homicide is far too many.

Based on the latest ONS release of police recorded crime covering the period 12 months to June 2021, Devon and Cornwall's homicide rate per 1000 population is the highest in the South West Region.

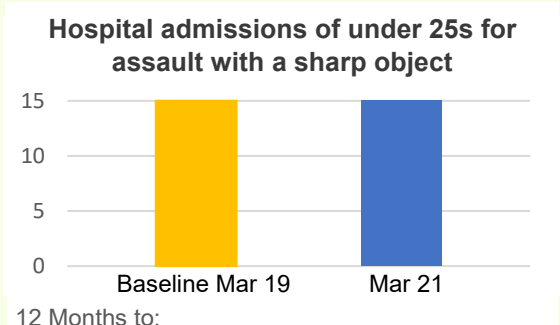
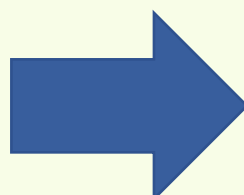
## 1.2 Hospital admissions of under 25s for assault with a sharp object (National Measure)

12 months to  
March 2019

**15**

12 months to  
March 2021

**15**



No update is available for this measure since the last Panel meeting. 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.

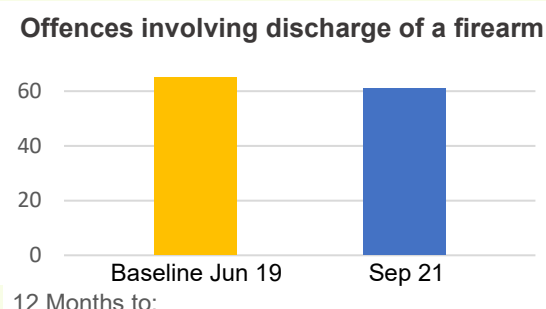
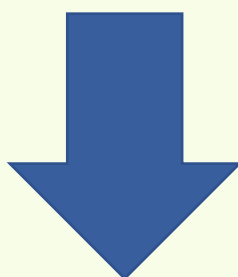
## 1.3 Offences involving discharge of a firearm (National Measure)

12 months  
to June  
2019

**66**

12 months to  
September  
2021

**61**



In the 12 months to September 2021, 61 offences involving the discharge of a firearm were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This is 5 fewer offences when compared to the baseline year - the 12 months to June 2019.



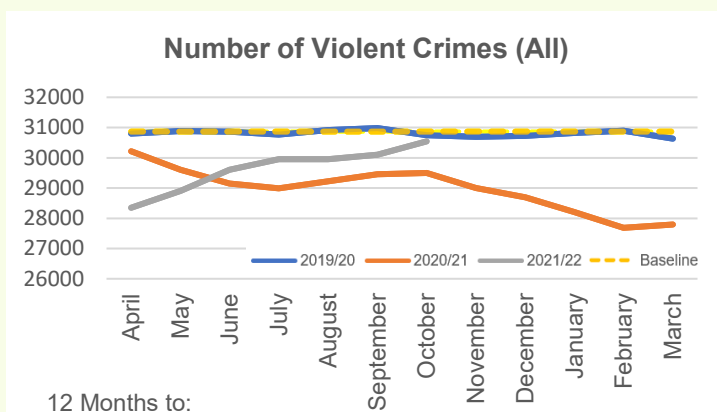
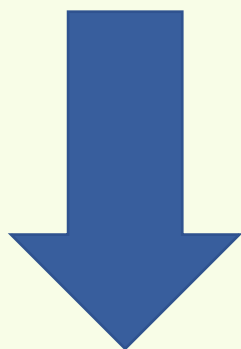
## 1.4 Violent Crime (All)

12 months to  
June 2019

**30,866**

12 months to  
October 2021

**30,554**



In the 12 months to October 2021, 30,554 violent offences were recorded in Devon and Cornwall. This is a decrease of 1.0% (-312) when compared to the baseline year, the 12 months to June 2019, and therefore a stable trend is evident. However, in more recent months the number of violent crime across Devon and Cornwall has been steadily increasing. The continued ease in COVID-19 restrictions and the re-opening of the night-time economy has likely contributed to the increase in violent offences. The Commissioner will continue to monitor this increasing trend to understand which offence groups are driving any increases.

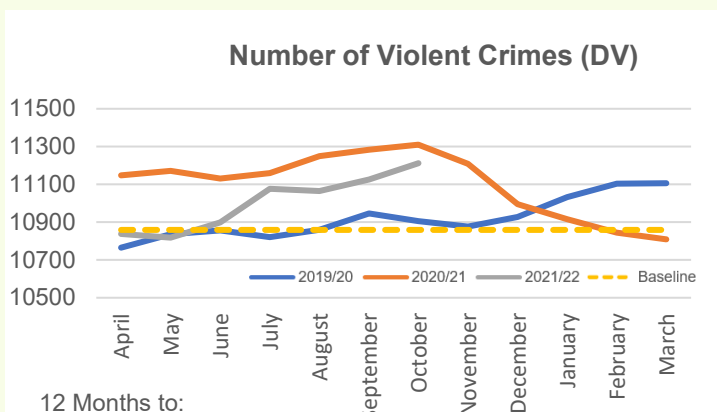
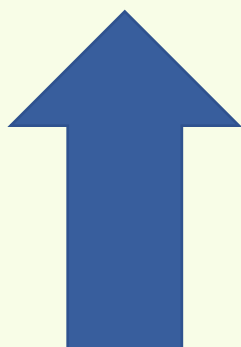
## 1.5 Violent Crime (Domestic Violence)

12 months to  
June 2019

**10,859**

12 months to  
October 2021

**11,258**



In the 12 months to October 2021, 11,258 violence with injury offences were flagged as related to domestic violence. This is a 3.7% increase (+399) when compared to the baseline year - the 12 months to June 2019. This increase is on par with trends seen nationally, with a 6% increase in offences in England and Wales in the year to March 2021.

It is difficult to make objective inferences about performance based on increases or decreases in domestic abuse crimes. For instance, an increase in domestic violence crime could be interpreted as positive - because victims may be more confident to report to the police and seek support – but the trend could also be interpreted as negative – because it could be reflective of a ‘real’ increase in victimisation.

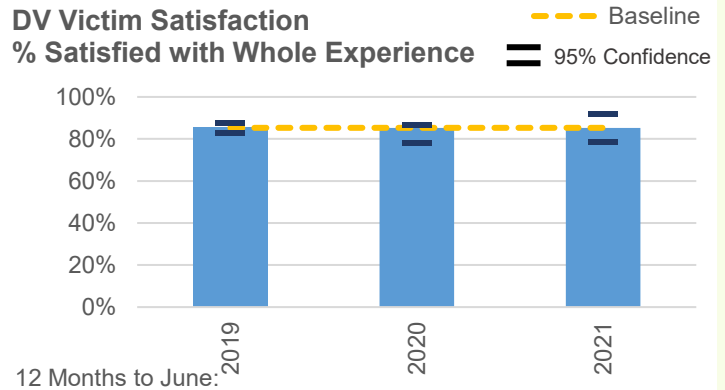
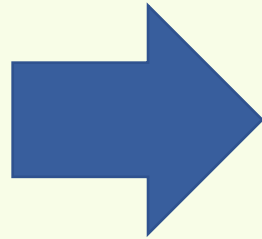
## 1.6 Victim Satisfaction (Domestic Violence)

12 months to  
June 2019

**85.30%**

12 months to  
June 2021

**85.20%**



No update is available for this measure since the last Panel meeting. As stated in the previous report, in the 12 months to June 2021, 85.2% of domestic violence victims stated they were satisfied with the overall service they received from Devon and Cornwall Police. This shows stable performance when compared to the baseline year – the 12 months to June 2019.

## 2. Antisocial Behaviour

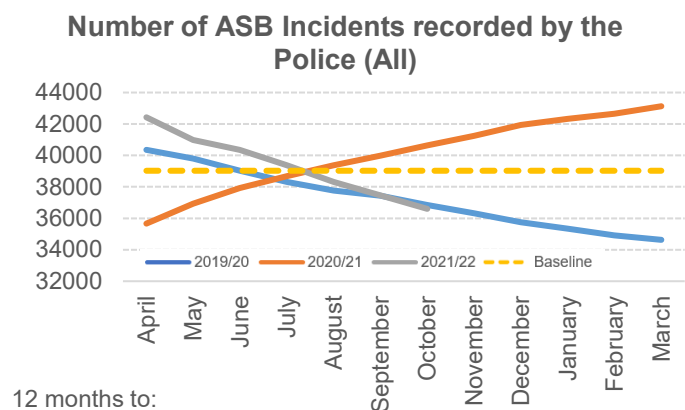
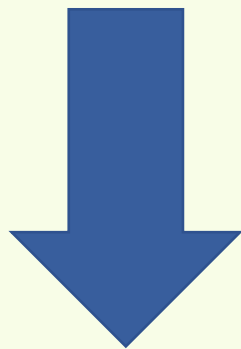
### 2.1 Recorded number of ASB Incidents recorded by the Police

12 months to  
June 2019

**39,026**

12 months to  
October 2021

**36,601**



In the 12 months to October 2021, 36,601 ASB incidents were recorded by Devon and Cornwall Police. This is a 6.2% decrease (-2,425) compared to the baseline year - the 12 months to June 2019. A declining trend is evident through 2021/22 and the Commissioner is eager to see this sustained after a period of heightened ASB incidents during much of 2020/21 due to non-adherence to COVID-19 restrictions.

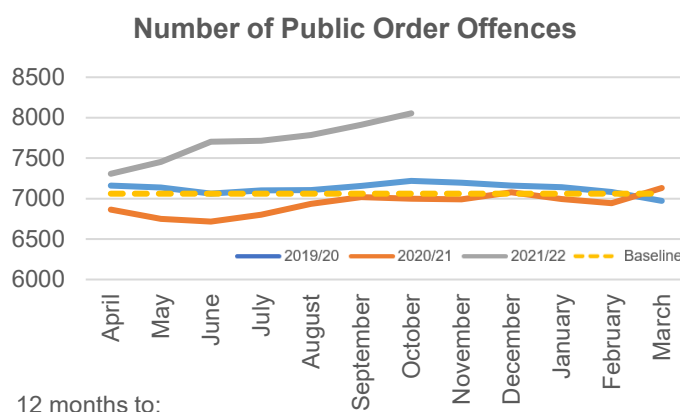
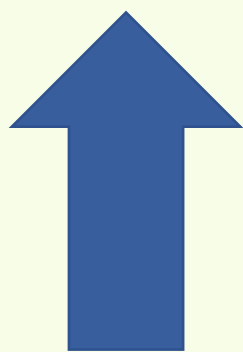
## 2.2 Recorded number of Public Order Offences

12 months to  
June 2019

**7,061**

12 months to  
October 2021

**8,054**



In the 12 months to October 2021, 8,054 public order offences were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This is a 14.1% increase (+993) 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, however, the lowest in the South West region. The Commissioner is also re-assured that in recent months the trend appears to be stabilising, with just a 2.0% increase (+158) in public order offences when compared to the 12 months to August 2021. The Commissioner will nonetheless continue to monitor this measure over the coming months.

## 3. Drugs

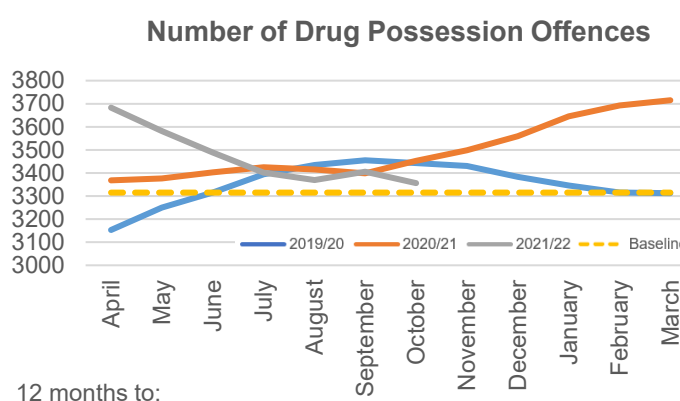
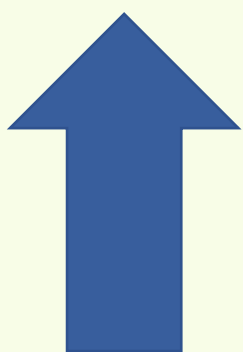
### 3.1 Drug Possession Offences

12 months to  
June 2019

**3,315**

12 months to  
October 2021

**3,356**



In the 12 months to October 2021, 3,356 possession offences were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This is a slight increase of 1.2% (+41) on the number of offences recorded in the baseline year, the 12 months to June 2019.

The Commissioner is encouraged that the levels of recorded offences have been maintained compared to the baseline year, and that the police continue to detect and act against drug related crime in our communities.

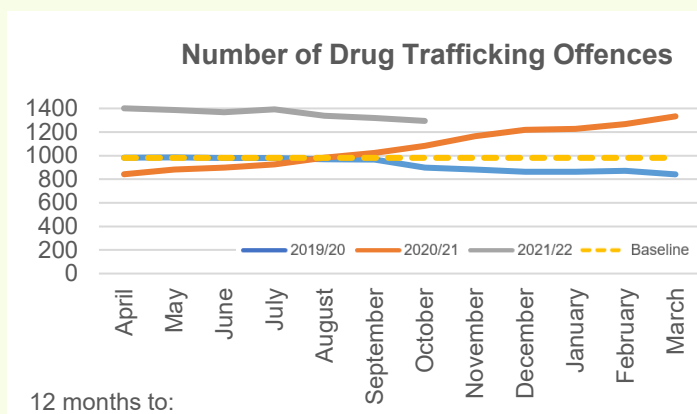
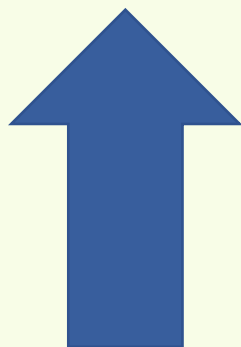
## 3.2 Drug Trafficking Offences

12 months to  
June 2019

**981**

12 months to  
October 2021

**1,294**



Drug trafficking includes selling, transporting, or importing illegal drugs. In the 12 months to October 2021, 1,294 drug trafficking offences were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This is a 31.9% increase (+313) on the number of offences recorded in the baseline year, the 12 months to June 2019. Overall, the long-term trend shows a steady increase in the detection of offences by police.

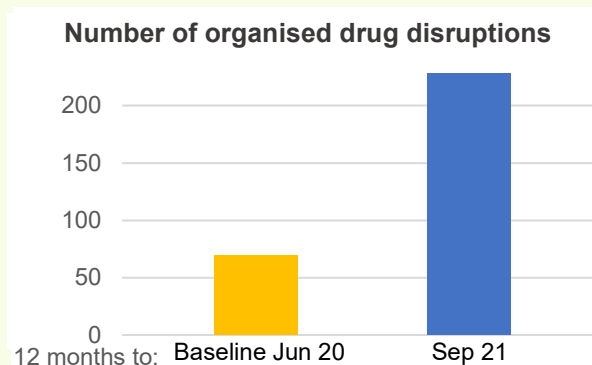
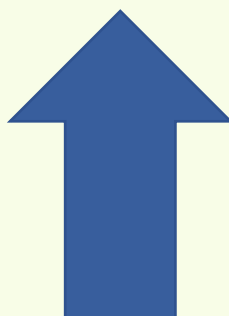
## 3.3 Organised Drug Disruptions

12 months  
to June  
2020

**69**

12 months to  
November  
2021

**228**



In the 12 months to November 2021, 228 disruptions were carried out by Devon and Cornwall Police of which had links to County Lines and Dangerous Drug Networks. This is a 230.4% increase (+159) on the number of disruptions carried out in the baseline year, the 12 months to June 2020. As previously suggested, this increase is welcomed by the Commissioner, as it demonstrates the proactive policing activity to apprehend offenders. Overall, the data demonstrates a significant increase in the number of disruptions over the past year and the Commissioner is encouraged by the progress that has been made.

# 4. Road Safety

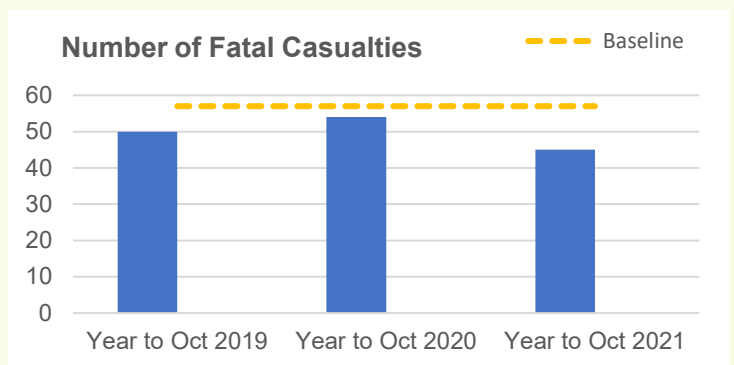
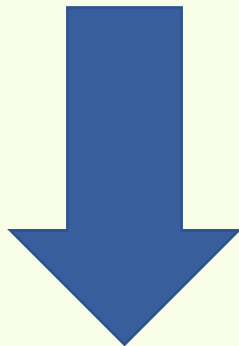
## 4.1 Number of Fatal Casualties

12 months to  
June 2019

**57**

12 months to  
October 2021

**46**



46 fatalities were recorded on Devon and Cornwall's roads in the 12 months to October 2021. This is 11 fewer fatalities when compared to the baseline year, the 12 months to June 2019. A decreasing trend is therefore evident. The Commissioner is the road safety portfolio lead for all Police and Crime Commissioners across the country and is committed to ensuring that the number of people fatally injured on our roads continues to fall. The Commissioner also continues to advocate for enhanced safety on our roads as Chair of the 'Vision Zero' partnership. The group made up of key local services, such as the police and ambulance trust, embody a shared vision of zero road deaths in Devon and Cornwall by 2040.

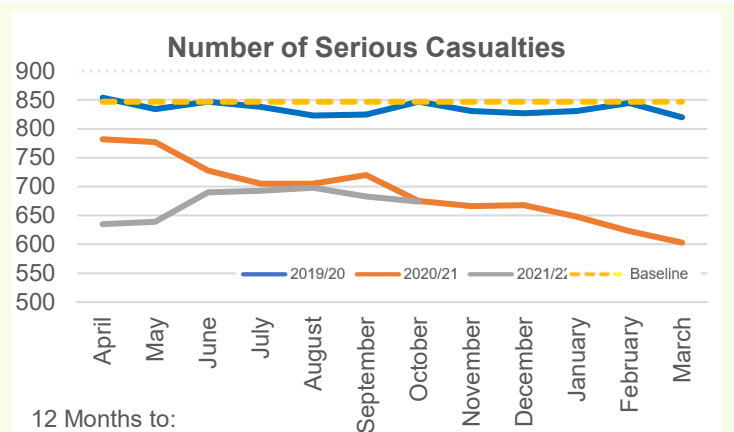
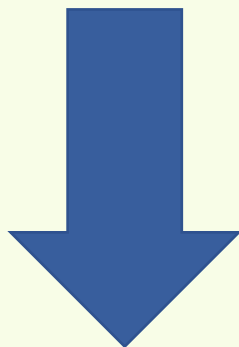
## 4.2 Number of Serious Casualties

12 months to  
June 2019

**847**

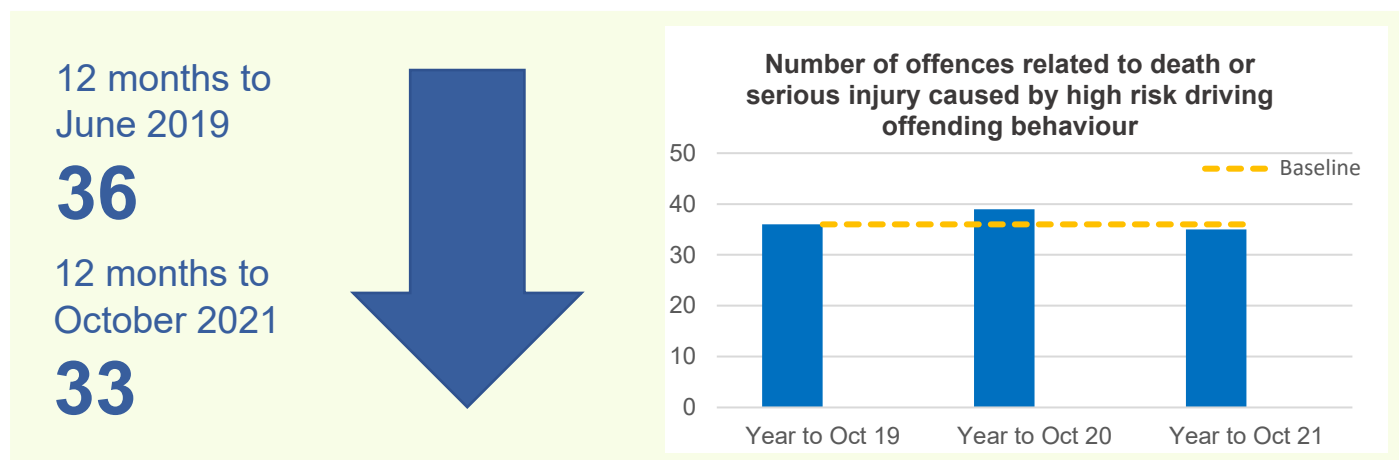
12 months to  
October 2021

**667**



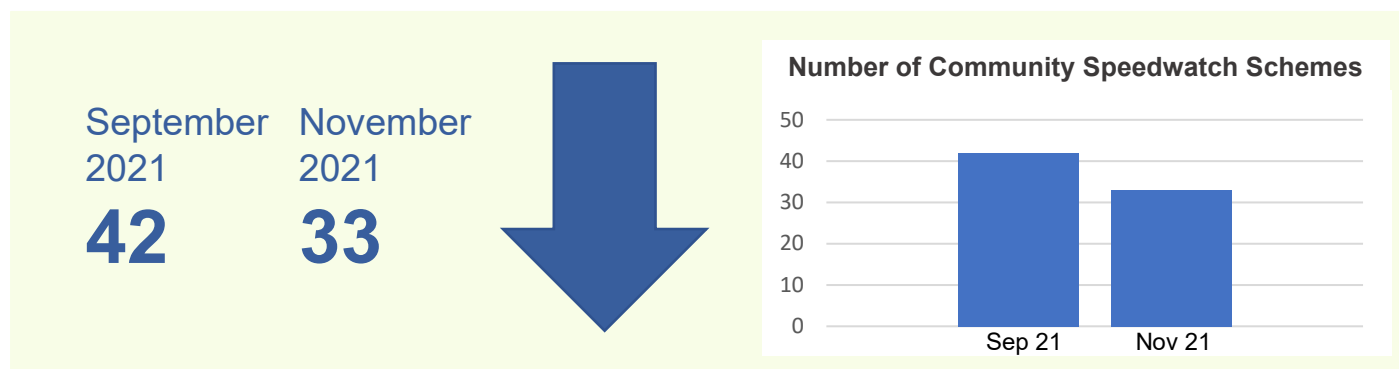
667 people were seriously injured on Devon and Cornwall's roads in the 12 months to October 2021. This represents a 21.3% decrease (-180) when compared to the baseline year – the 12 months to June 2019. The reduction in road traffic during much of the COVID-19 pandemic has likely contributed to the decrease in the number of serious casualties.

### 4.3 Number of offences related to death or serious injury caused by high risk driving behaviour



33 offences of death or serious injury caused by high-risk driving behaviour were recorded in the 12 months to October 2021. This is 3 fewer offences when compared to the baseline year, the 12 months to June 2019. The current data remains below the baseline year and a stable trend is evident.

### 4.4 Number of Community Speedwatch Schemes



During November 2021, there were 33 active Community Speed Watch (CSW) teams. This is 9 fewer active teams than reported in September 2021. Devon and Cornwall Police's CSW policy states that Speed Watch can only take place in 'good visibility during daylight hours and must not take place in adverse weather conditions'. Wetter weather and fewer daylight hours during November may therefore explain the decrease in the number of active teams.

It is also imperative to highlight, that despite the decrease in the number of active teams in November 2021, the number of teams signed up to CSW has increased. In November 2021 there were 149 teams signed up to CSW, 10 more teams than were signed up during September (139).

# 5. Safe

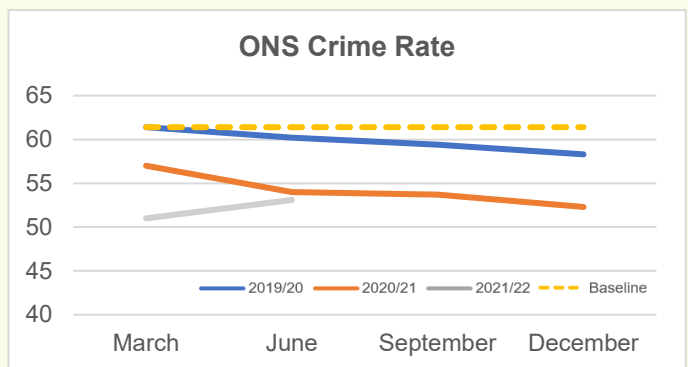
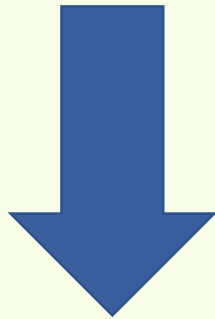
## 5.1 ONS Crime Rate

March 2019

**61.4**

June 2021

**53.1**



In the previous report to the Panel, it was highlighted that for the 12 months to March 2021, Devon and Cornwall had a crime rate of 51.0 crimes per 1000 in the population. According to the Office for National Statistics (ONS), this meant that Devon and Cornwall had the 3rd lowest crime rate in England and Wales.

ONS data for the 12 months to June 2021 shows that Devon and Cornwall retains the 3rd lowest position nationally, although the crime rate has increased to 53.1 crimes per 1000 population. This equates to 94,814 recorded crimes in the year. This increase is on par with trends seen nationally, with the crime rate in England and Wales rising from 76.9 crimes per 1000 in the population to 81.3 over the same period.

Despite the increase in recorded crime in the 12 months to June 2021 when compared to the 12 months to March 2021, Devon and Cornwall's crime rate for this period (53.1) remains 1.2 times lower than the baseline year - the 12 months to March 2019 - and therefore a long-term declining trend is evident.

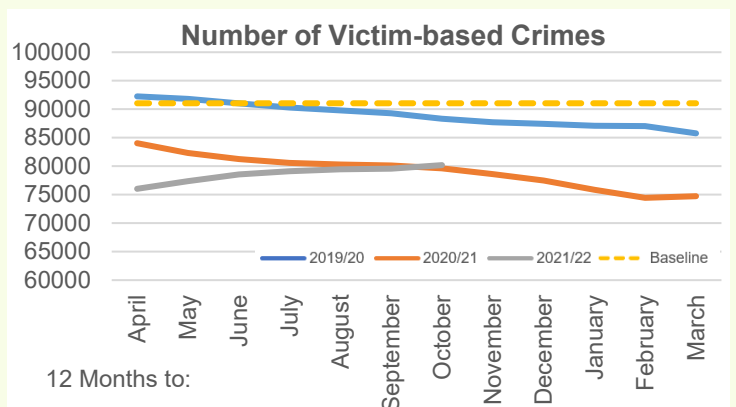
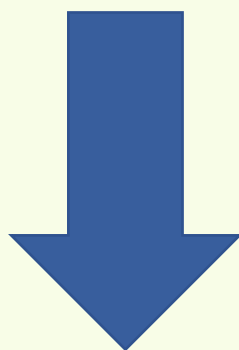
## 5.2 Victim-based reported crime

12 months to  
June 2019

**91,042**

12 months to  
October 2021

**80,185**



Victim based crime includes violence, sexual offences, stalking, harassment, theft, criminal damage and arson. In the 12 months to October 2021, 80,185 victim-based crimes were recorded in Devon and Cornwall. This is a 11.9% decrease (-10,857) when compared to the baseline year - the 12 months to June 2019.

The decrease in victim-based crimes is likely attributable, in part, to the COVID-19 pandemic and the varying lockdown restrictions throughout this period. This created significant reductions in social movement and decreased opportunities for crime. As expected, with the continued easing of COVID-19 restrictions there has been a steady increase in victim-based crimes since April 2021. The Commissioner will continue to monitor these trends closely over the year.

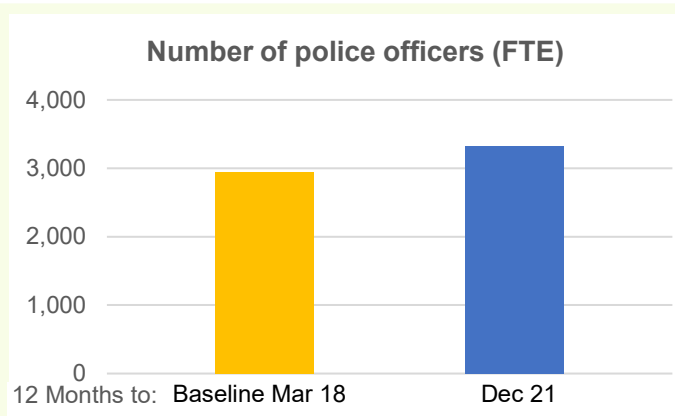
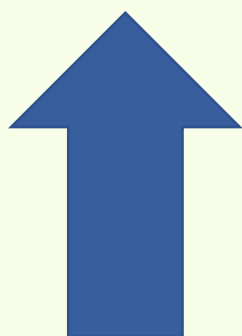
### 5.3 Number of Police Officers (FTE)

March 2018

**2,944**

December 2021

**3,334**



The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) police officers employed by Devon and Cornwall Police as of December 2021 was 3,334. This is a 13.2% increase, or an additional 390 officers, when compared to March 2018. The force will continue to benefit from the Government's national uplift programme. It is projected that by March 2022, 3,422 officers will be employed by Devon and Cornwall Police

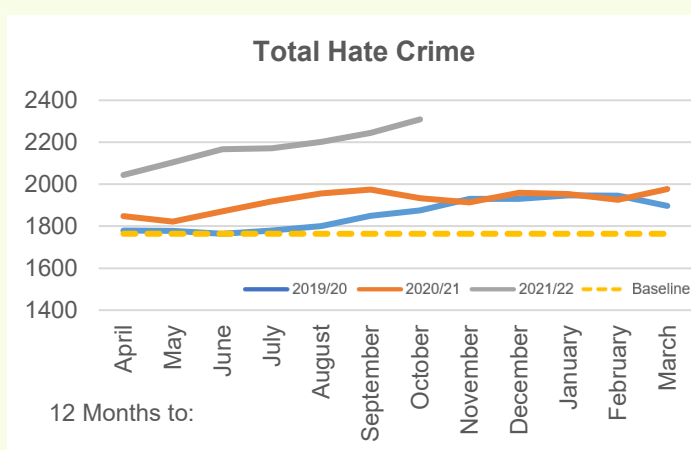
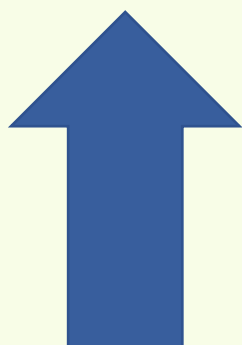
### 5.4 Number of Recorded Hate crimes

12 months to  
June 2019

**1,764**

12 months to  
October 2021

**2,309**



2,309 hate crimes were recorded in the 12 months to October 2021. This is a 30.9% increase (+545) when compared to the baseline year, the 12 months to June 2019.

Despite the observed increase, it is difficult to make objective inferences about performance based on increases or decreases in hate crime. For instance, an increase in offences could be interpreted as positive, because victims may be more confident to report to the police, or the police may have made recording improvements when identifying hate offences. Conversely, the trend could also be interpreted as negative because it could be reflective of a 'real' increase in victimisation. The Commissioner will continue to monitor trends in hate crime closely to understand the offence types that are contributing to the increase and the force's response to victims.



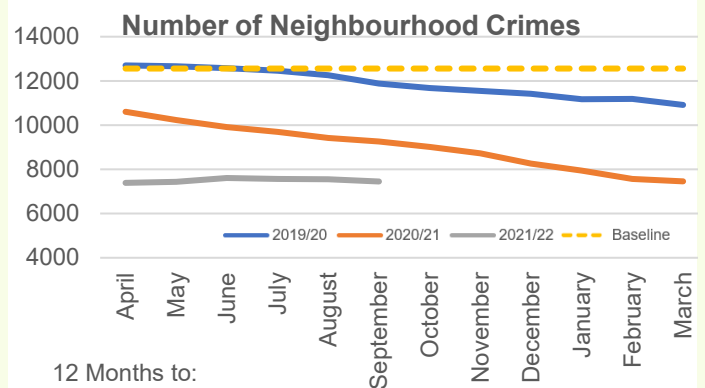
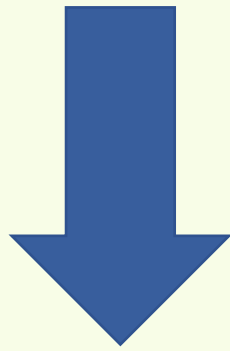
## 5.5 Number of Neighbourhood Crimes (National Measure)

12 months to  
June 2019

**12,559**

12 months to  
September 2021

**7,450**



Neighbourhood crime consists of the following offence types; burglary dwelling, burglary non-dwelling, robbery, theft of and from a vehicle and theft from the person. In the 12 months to September 2021, 7,450 neighbourhood crimes were recorded across Devon and Cornwall. This is a 40.9% decrease (-5,149) when compared to the baseline year - the 12 months to June 2019.

Much of the decrease may be attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic, including restrictions on social movement and the increased time that people have spent in their homes. In recent months, small increases in neighbourhood crimes have been evident.

## 6. Resilient

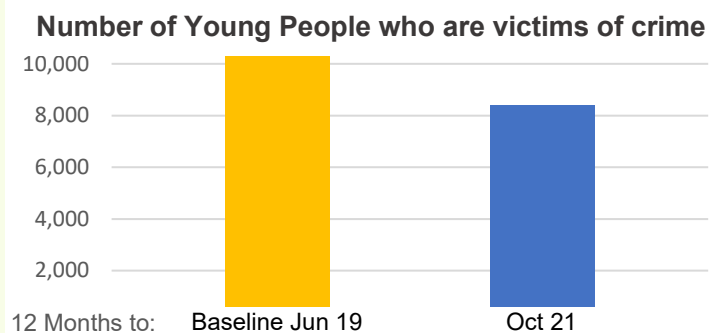
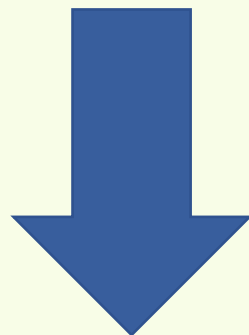
### 6.1 Number of Young People who are victims of crime

12 months to  
June 2019

**8,692**

12 months to  
October 2021

**8,487**

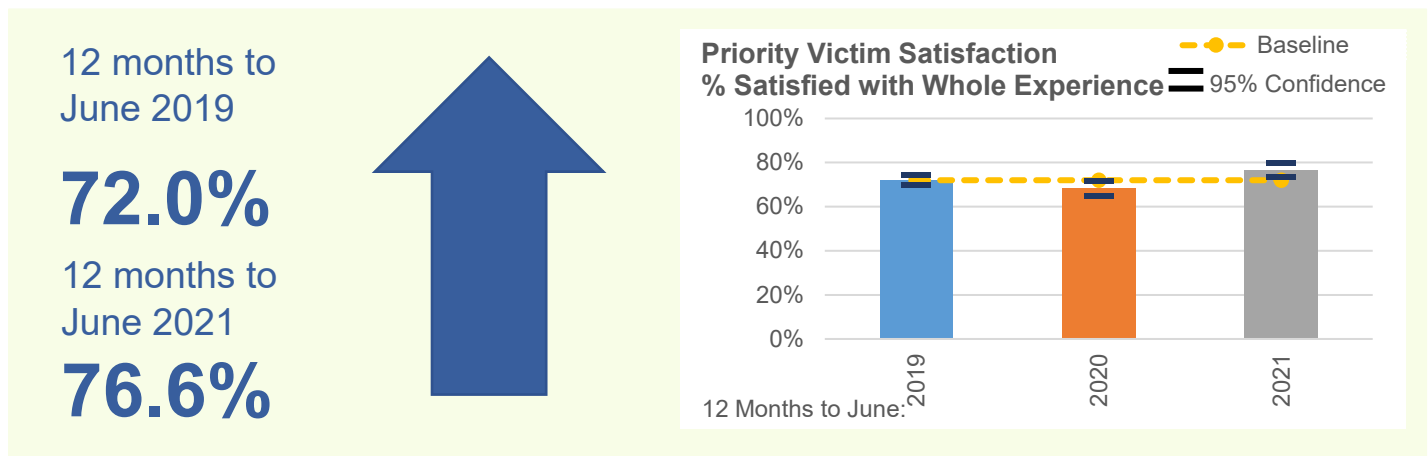


In the 12 months to October 2021, 8,487 people under the age of 18 were identified as a victim of crime in Devon and Cornwall. This is 2.4% fewer victims (-205) when compared to the baseline year - the 12 months to June 2019. This is likely to be reflective of decreased victimisation as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### 6.2 Amount of Funding bought into Devon and Cornwall by the Police and Crime Commissioner

Monitoring the amount (£) of funding brought into Devon and Cornwall by the OPCC will also help the Commissioner to understand how activity linked to the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan helps to build resilience to crime. This will include the additional funding the OPCC has secured, or supported partners in securing. The Commissioner will begin to monitor this from March 2021 and report against this measure at the end of the financial year.

## 6.3 Percentage (%) of victims that were satisfied with the overall service they received from Devon and Cornwall Police

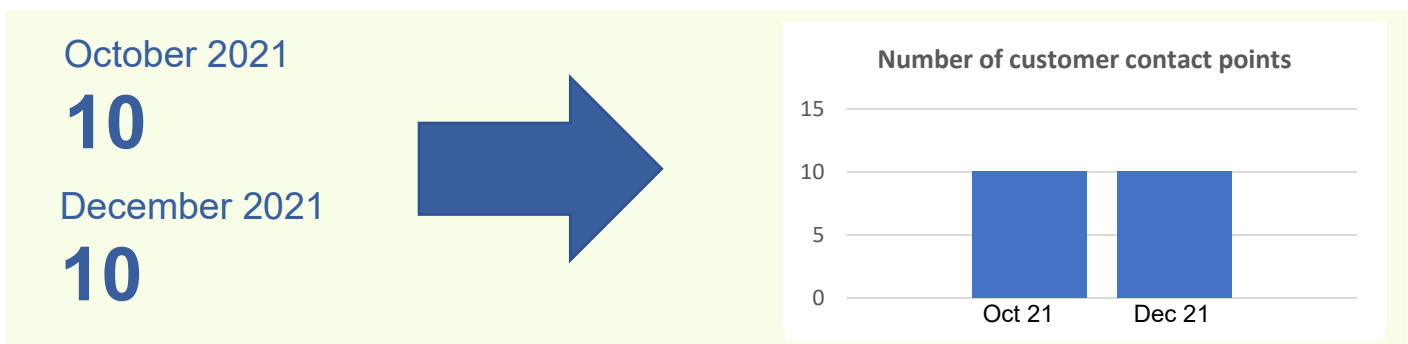


This Survey is based on priority victims satisfaction. Priority victims are those that are victims of serious crimes which include domestic abuse, hate crime, sexual offences, attempted murder as well as victims who are persistently targeted, vulnerable or intimidated.

In the 12 months to June 2021, 76.6% of victims of crime were satisfied with the overall service they received from Devon and Cornwall Police. This is +4.6% higher than the baseline year (72.0%) and is indicative of improved performance compared with the baseline year. The figure reported to the Panel in November 2021 also covered the 12 months to June 2021 and showed that 74.1% of victims of crime were satisfied with the overall service they received from Devon and Cornwall Police, the variance reflects more survey responses and the revised figure.

## 7. Connected

### 7.1 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 December 2021, there were 10 customer contact points open to the public across Devon and Cornwall. In the November Panel paper it was reported that there were 11 customer contact points open to the public, this figure incorrectly included Truro Police Enquiry Office, which due to the Coronavirus pandemic has been closed to the public until further notice.

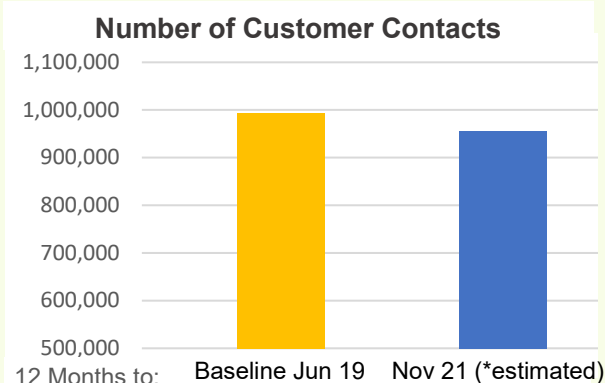
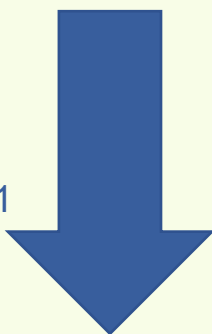
## 8.2 Number of Customer Contacts (999, 101, Online)

12 months to June 2019

**993,666**

12 months to November 2021

**956,306** (\*estimated)



In the 12 months to November 2021 Devon and Cornwall Police's Contact Centre received just over 956,000 contacts. This consisted of the following activity:

- 999 calls: 280,968
- 101 calls: 459,733
- 101 Emails and texts: 149,836 (\*estimated)
- 101 Webchat: 65,769

This indicates that fewer contacts have been 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 attributed in part 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 approximately 55% - or 55,000 more emails and texts received - and the number of Webchats received has increased by 691% - or 57,459 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.

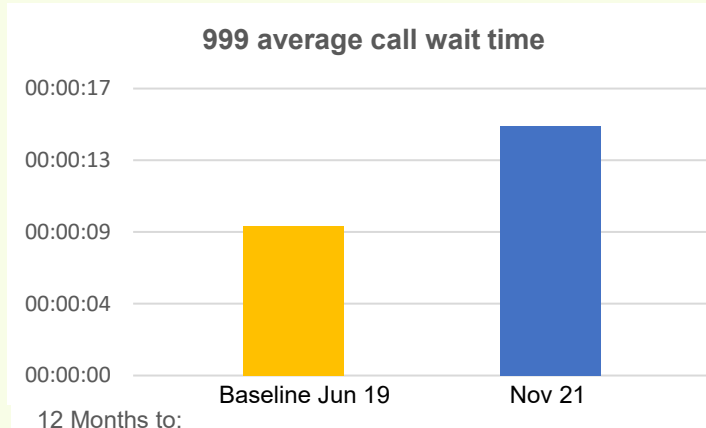
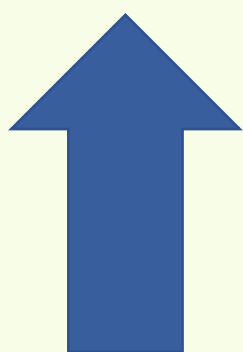
## 7.3 101 and 999 call wait times: 999

12 months to  
June 2019

**8 sec**

12 months to  
November 2021

**15 sec**



The average answer time for 999 emergency calls has increased by 7 seconds in the 12 months to November 2021 when compared to the baseline year (the 12 months to June 2019). This has taken the average wait time for 999 calls to 15 seconds. When compared to the figure last reported to Panel – for the 12 months to July 2021 – total wait time has increased by 2 seconds. More calls have been received and answered in the latest period. The Commissioner continues to monitor performance in this area closely with Devon and Cornwall Police to understand the factors that are impacting on average wait times.

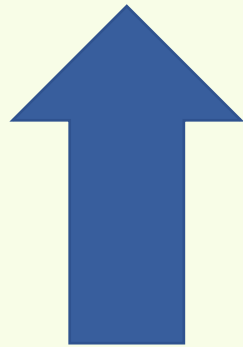
## 7.4 101 and 999 call wait times: 101 P1

12 months to  
July 2020

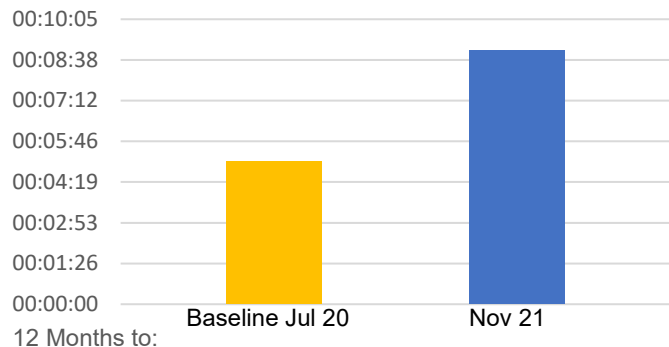
**5m 3s**

12 months to  
November 2021

**8m 59s**



101 P1 average call wait time



P1 (or Priority 1) non-emergency calls are those calls that are identified by the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system as high priority. These include calls relating to domestic abuse, sexual offences, hate crime, missing persons, and road safety. In the year to November 2021, the average wait time on the P1 line was 8 minutes 59 seconds. This is an increase of 3 minutes 56 seconds when compared to the baseline year, the 12 months to July 2020. Compared to the figure last reported to the Panel, for the 12 months to July 2021, the average wait time has increased by 2 minutes 42 seconds. More calls have been received in the latest period, fewer answered and a higher abandonment rate is evident. The Commissioner is monitoring performance closely and exploring the factors that are contributing to the increase in wait times with the force.

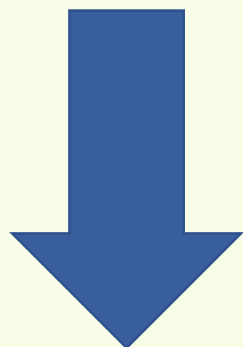
## 7.5 101 and 999 call wait times: 101 P2

12 months to July  
2020

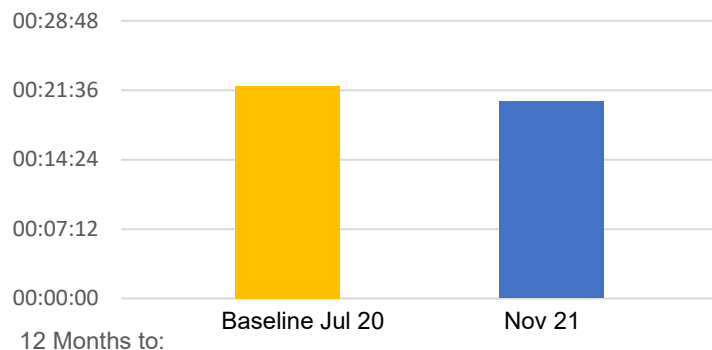
**22m 2s**

12 months to  
November 2021

**20m 26s**



101 P2 average wait times



P2 (or Priority 2) non-emergency calls relate to all 101 calls that are not identified as urgent by the IVR system. This could include calls regarding anti-social behaviour or callers requesting updates about ongoing investigations. The average wait time on the P2 line in the 12 months to November 2021 was 20 minutes and 26 seconds. This is a decrease of 1 minute 36 seconds when compared to the baseline year, the 12 months to July 2020. Compared to the figure reported to the Panel in the last meeting – for the 12 months to July 2021 – the average wait time has increased by 4 minutes 51 seconds. Fewer calls have been received and answered in the latest period and a higher abandonment rate is evident. Although improved performance is evident compared against the baseline year the Commissioner is concerned that the average wait times has increased since the last Panel meeting and continues to monitor performance in this area closely with Devon and Cornwall Police.

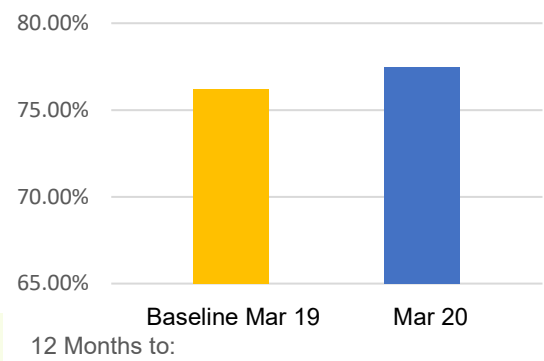
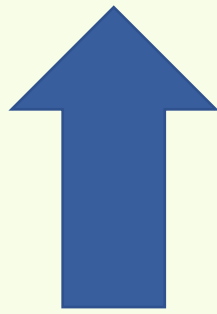
## 7.6 Levels of Public Confidence in the Police

12 months to  
March 2019

**76.2%**

12 months to  
March 2020

**77.5%**



Historically, data measuring public confidence has been taken from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW). It was reported in the last Panel paper that in the year to March 2020, 77.5% of Devon and Cornwall's residents agreed with the statement that, 'taking everything into account, [they] have confidence in the police in [Devon and Cornwall]'. This was a 1.3% increase on the baseline year, the 12 months to March 2019.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the CSEW have suspended face-to-face surveying and an updated position is not available. In the interim, the OPCC have adopted a proxy measure to ascertain public confidence, which was trialled in the OPCCs Budget Engagement Survey (January 2022). Of 2,480 respondents, 45.7% agreed with the statement that, 'all things considered, [they] have confidence in the Police in Devon and Cornwall'.

The results of the Commissioners survey should not be directly compared against the CSEW. The Commissioners survey is potentially indicative of a decline in public confidence, but this does not mean that there has been a -31.8% decrease when compared to the results of the CSEW. The CSEW adopts a robust survey methodology through random probability sampling of households. The Commissioners survey, on the other hand, asks a different question using a self-selected sample of respondents via social media advertisements. Due to its design, therefore, the Commissioners survey is unlikely to be truly representative of attitudes across Devon and Cornwall.

The Commissioner will nonetheless continue to monitor public confidence through this local survey to understand any variations in confidence over time, particularly whilst the CSEW is unavailable.

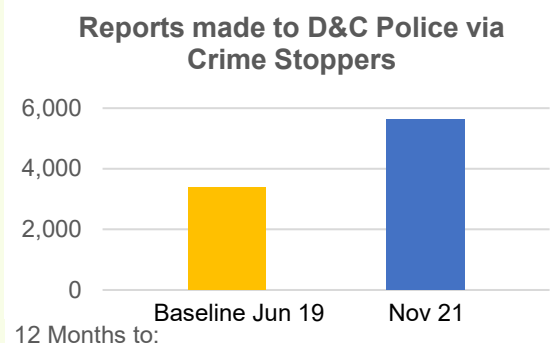
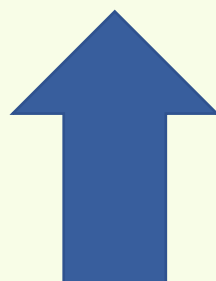
## 7.7 Reports made to Devon and Cornwall from Crime Stoppers

12 months to March 2019

**3,386**

12 months to November 2021

**4,206**



Crime Stoppers is a national charity which allows people to call anonymously to report information about crime. Any information which Crime Stoppers deem useful to the police is passed onto the respective local police force. In the 12 months to November 2021, 4,206 reports were disseminated to Devon and Cornwall Police via Crime Stoppers. This is a 24.2% increase (+820) on the number of reports received in the baseline year - the 12 months to March 2019. The Commissioner welcomes this increase in the number of reports.

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**Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel****28<sup>th</sup> January 2022****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 November 2021.

**1. SAFE****1.1 Safety of Women at Night Fund**

In November 2021, the Home Office announced that Exeter had been successful in its bid to the Safety of Women at Night (SWAN) Fund for 2021/22 and was awarded over £72,000. My office worked with partners across Exeter, including the University of Exeter who have led the bid, to support its development and I am delighted that Exeter has been successful.

My office is now working alongside the university, Devon and Cornwall Police, Exeter City Council and wider partners to deliver a series of projects to improve safety in the city at night. This funding is in addition to the £432,000 awarded to Exeter City Council under the Safer Streets Fund in July 2021, but the two funds will complement and support each other. The SWAN funding is focused on initiatives such as training, education and awareness, while the primary focus of the Safer Streets Fund in Exeter is on enhanced infrastructure, including CCTV.

The project comprises a number of key initiatives, including: bystander awareness training to be delivered to people working in the night time economy, the relaunch and expansion of the city's Best Bar None scheme, the development of a Women and Girls Safety Charter for Exeter, implementing a system whereby people who feel unsafe can call the 24/7 CCTV control room and a programme of education and outreach with girls and women who may be at risk or vulnerable within the city, including women who are rough sleeping. The project will be completed by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

**1.2 Op Scorpion**

All of the South West Police and Crime Commissioners and Chief Constables have agreed to work together to make drugs disruptions a priority to protect our communities. The improved coordination of activity is designed to make the South West of England a hostile environment for those who deal drugs and engage in antisocial drug taking activity by disrupting transport links used for moving drugs into and around the area and have a visible impact on drug dealing and drug taking in identified hot spots. Op Scorpion will harness the collective strength of South West Policing to better coordinate disruptive activity to target and harden the area to protect against criminals engaging in drug activity; improve community confidence by demonstrating to the public that there is a uniform desire and commitment by policing leadership to work together to tackle the impact of drugs in the South West; increase visibility of regional assets, such as the Regional Organised Crime Unit (ROCU); and improve the community's confidence to report drug-related



issues in their community through greater use of confidential reporting lines e.g., Crime stoppers. The first of the coordinated approach is currently being planned and I will be able to update panel members on its effectiveness at the next Police and Crime Panel.

### **1.3 PCC's COVID Unlock and Summer 2021 Partnership Fund**

I have previously updated the Panel on the partnership fund scheme that operated over summer 2021. This scheme was put in place by my office to support local areas to address concerns around antisocial behaviour associated with the lifting of pandemic restrictions and the expected increase in staycations due to international travel restrictions. In particular, the scheme focused on concerns relating to the re-opening of evening and night time economies after 18 months and on preventing antisocial behaviour (ASB) amongst young people by increasing diversionary activities.

The purpose of the *evening and night time economy funding* was to support the pro-active management of hotspots and help prevent anticipated ASB. Twenty hotspots were identified by the OPCC, Devon and Cornwall Police and partners and were subsequently invited in April 2021 to submit bids for up to £10,000 in funding from my office, subject to local match funding. Nineteen locations made bids, for varying levels of funding: Bude, Falmouth, Liskeard, Newquay, Penzance, Truro, St Austell, Bideford, Ilfracombe, Barnstaple, Exeter, Plymouth (3 locations), Exmouth, Tiverton, Newton Abbot, Torquay and Paignton.

This funding could be spent on street/taxi marshals, CCTV infrastructure, additional CCTV monitoring hours and other initiatives which would enhance the safety of night-time economy spaces. Over the summer period the scheme delivered:

- Over 13,000 marshalling hours
- Around 2,300 additional CCTV monitoring hours
- 5 additional CCTV cameras
- 14 nights of Safety Bus provision in Plymouth
- Equipment and support for Street Pastors in Plymouth
- Adoption and roll-out of the DISC information system in St Austell and Truro

I have also made £100,000 available to prevent ASB by young people in public spaces through the provision of diversionary activities for young people. The funding was shared between Torbay, Devon, Cornwall and Plymouth using the standard Community Safety Partnership (CSP) allocation mechanism under my 2021/22 Commissioning Intentions Plan. There was no requirement for local match funding to be provided.

The CSPs implemented a range of measures based on local need and over the summer period thousands of hours of diversionary projects delivered. This included increased outreach teams to support and engage young people on the streets, activity programmes for sport, music and art and community engagement events and activity days. For example, in Torbay, the Nova and Genesis Street Teams recorded over 1000 contacts with young people throughout their deployment, while Safer Devon CSP used its funding to provide outreach programmes by Space and VYOC Devon in Tavistock, Honiton, Axminster, Crediton, Great Torrington and Holsworthy across the school holidays.

### **1.4 Home Office DA Perpetrator Funding for Bystander Training**

Violence against women and girls is one of my critical concerns. Evidence has shown that bystander intervention can be an effective way of preventing sexual and relationship violence and stalking before it happens. Communities have a significant role to play in preventing this type of violence by calling out negative and unacceptable behaviour.

In partnership with local authorities, my office have secured funding to be able to offer **free** Active Bystander training and events that will encourage people to become "Active Bystanders". This



does not mean physical intervention – but understanding how to react and what to say to challenge others when their words or behaviour demean or are aggressive towards women and girls.

The aim of this training is to raise awareness of the prevalence of sexual violence in society, and other forms of men's violence against women, and will provide a range of safe options available to bystanders to safely support and challenge others.

In addition, various participants will go on to attend Active Bystander 'Train the Trainer' training which will enable them to continue delivering the Active Bystander training in the future to others in their communities, with the aim of bringing about long-term change to this human rights issue, criminal justice issue and public health issue. This training is being targeted at specific cohorts identified by local authority Domestic Abuse Commissioners to maximise impact.

### **1.5 Commissioner's Community Grant Scheme – January 2022**

In January 2022, the second PCC Community Grant scheme will open for applications. I have made £200,000 available which will be split geographically with £144,000 available for Devon, Torbay and Plymouth and £56,000 available to Cornwall.

The funds are being administered by the relevant Community Foundations for [Devon](#) and [Cornwall](#), and I would like to thank both organisations for their support.

The theme for this scheme is:

*“Schemes or projects which are aimed at raising awareness of the risks around drug use or which divert young people and adults from becoming involved in illegal drugs activity (eg trafficking, County Lines and gangs).”*

### **1.6 Serious Violence Update**

Since the last panel, the Serious Violence programme has commissioned new interventions to develop and test new preventative initiatives across the Force including:

- A Homicide Prevention Officer/ Lessons Learnt post within the police to deliver Homicide Perpetrator Reviews to learn lessons about the life history of a perpetrator.
- Enhancing the service for 18–25-year-olds through Pathfinder (the evidence-based, voluntary intervention programme which provides an alternative to prosecution), and for those who have previously been looked after children ensuring the specific needs of this cohort can be met with more specialised interventions (total of £322 over two financial years)
- New trauma and shame sensitive training across the force with partners to embed these approaches into core policy and practice

### **1.7 Serious Violence Prevention – Launch Event 13<sup>th</sup> January**

It was a pleasure to see so many leaders and partners from across the peninsula at our Serious Violence Prevention Partnership Launch Event. The event, opened by myself and the Chief Constable as joint leads for the programme, was an opportunity to brief colleagues from Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), local authorities, Youth Offending Teams, Criminal Justice and beyond on:

- The programmes strategy, achievements to date and future ambition
- Discuss the impact of the Serious Violence Duty and how we can deliver change together

- Adopt and agree a range of Peninsula wide approaches, including the adoption of a Public Health and Trauma-Informed consensus.

This event also committed additional funding via the respective Community Safety Partnerships to assist in delivering the new serious violence duties to help share the learning from the strategic needs assessment for the peninsula.

### **1.8 Vision Zero South West – Community Call for ideas**

The Vision Zero Community Call for Ideas provided the chance for communities to bid for small grants to improve road safety in their area by supporting costed schemes that had the support of the local council. Of the 82 bids received, 34 bids from across Devon and Cornwall were approved. A further four bids were supported and built into Vision Zeros annual Road Safety Delivery Plan. Details of all the successful bids are [available on the Vision Zero website](#).

Vision Zero partners were really impressed with the range and quality of the applications and, as a result, increased the level of funding available in order to deliver as many ideas as possible. I have been overwhelmed by the enthusiasm and attention to detail that residents have displayed in preparing their bids and it underlines what we already knew – that many communities are determined to improve the safety of the roads where they live.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> November, I was fortunate enough to meet several recipients of the Call for Ideas grants when I, and Cllr Stuart Hughes the Vice Chair of the VZSW Board, visited Holsworthy and Milton Abbot near Tavistock. Both communities already have excellent approaches to address road safety concerns, such as Community Speedwatch, in place and the new funding will them to go further by investing in vehicle activated signs. In Milton Abbot, I met representatives from the local road safety action group, who have been calling for some time for improvements to a stretch of road that extends from the centre of the village to the local school. This is used daily by children and parents – two of whom I was delighted to meet during my visit and join on their walk to experience what they face each day. Milton Abbot is a great example of a community that is doing all it can to improve the safety for their residents.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Vision Zero South West Board to thank all those who took part in this scheme and the great work of local road safety groups across Devon and Cornwall.

### **1.9 APCC Road Safety Portfolio**

On 6<sup>th</sup> December, I chaired a meeting of the group that brings together Police and Crime Commissioners and their officers across the country to discuss issues relating to roads policing and road safety. In excess of 30 PCC's offices were represented on the call, demonstrating the importance given to road safety across England and Wales.

The portfolio reviewed and discussed the National Police Chiefs Council's (NPCC) draft Roads Policing Strategy, having been specifically invited by Chief Constable Jo Shiner, the NPCC's Roads Policing lead, for the APCC's comments. The Portfolio also discussed Smart motorways, Safety Camera partnerships and examined the Government's proposals to establish a Road Collisions Investigation Branch, see below.

### **1.10 Vision Zero South West videos**

In late November, my office worked with partners to produce a series of [hard-hitting videos](#) under the Vision Zero South West banner. These five videos featured testimony from victims and members of the blue light services as they outlined how their lives were affected by their experiences. The videos have been watched more than 50,000 times since being published.

### **1.11 ShopKind**

I am a supporter of the #ShopKind campaign, which is jointly funded by the Association of Convenience Stores and the Home Office. This campaign aims to promote positive behaviour in retail environments, particularly in the run up to Christmas when Covid-19 restrictions were in place. During #ShopKind awareness week, I visited a number of stores in Exeter to promote the campaign and my office's social media posts on this topical subject were among the most engaged with of recent months.

### **1.12 Public protection programme for sex offenders**

My office has commissioned a new service offering support to sex offenders. This is being supplied by the South West Community Chaplaincy, which will provide support to registered sex offenders and will go live in February. It enables Devon and Cornwall Police's Public Protection Team to refer offenders motivated to change into a structured programme. South West Community Chaplaincy will work with individuals referred by the force's Sexual or Violent Offender Managers (MOSOVOs). It is open to those no longer subject to Probation but who remain under the statutory supervision of the police and who present a risk of re-offending. The project will provide force resilience by ensuring additional contact and work with the individuals concerned (up to an additional 20 hours).

This service will complement existing commissioned services, which are currently only available to those on probation and on licence. The three-year contract will be subject to an academic evaluation to ensure that learning is captured so as to inform similar pieces of work in the future.

### **1.13 Torbay Substance Misuse and Antisocial Behaviour Subgroup**

I am supporting Torbay Together to deliver its strategic ambitions for the Bay. As part of this support, the Chief Executive of the OPCC will be chairing a newly established Substance Misuse and Antisocial Behaviour Subgroup which has been convened specifically to look at new ways of reducing issues within the town centre areas. I am investing £200,000 to support this activity.

### **1.14 Antisocial behaviour in Exeter City Centre**

I am continuing to work closely with Exeter Council and other partners to address the concerns the public have raised with me about ASB in Exeter City Centre. In December, I responded to a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) consultation for Exeter City Centre, providing support for tougher measures to prevent antisocial behaviour (ASB). A PSPO covering large parts of Exeter City Centre has been in place since 2017 and the Council have recently conducted a consultation, seeking views on amendments to the current Order to make it easier for the Police and Council Officers to disperse offenders who persistently engage in antisocial conduct. This includes a proposal to ensure that individuals who are not acting in groups can be effectively dispersed and a proposal to increase the period that a person cannot return to the area once asked to leave from up to 6 hours to 24 hours.

My response to the Council strongly supported these proposed amendments and I look forward to hearing the results of the consultation in February.

My office is continuing to work closely with the Exeter Neighbourhood Policing Team and Exeter City Council to address ASB concerns in the city centre. This has included supporting the Safer Streets and Safety of Women at Night (SWAN) projects. This week we attended the Exeter Urban Antisocial Behaviour Review Summit 2022 hosted by Exeter City Council and the University of

Exeter and I look forward to hearing the outputs of that event.

### **1.15 Roads Policing Fact Finding Exercise**

I spent an evening shift with Road Casualty Reduction Officer Sergeant Owen Messenger and the Torquay roads policing team on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. The purpose of the visit was to further my understanding of the challenges that frontline roads policing teams face and to gain an understanding of the work officers are carry out as part of the Christmas period drink and drive campaign. Several incidents were dealt with over the course of the evening. A driver with dangerous and illegal tyres was apprehended, as was a delivery driver who had no business insurance. The team also dealt with a car crash and seized a vehicle which was being driven with no insurance or tax. It was an informative and worthwhile evening and I extend my thanks and appreciation to the officers who took time to accommodate me.

## **2. RESILIENT**

### **2.1 Keyham Recovery Update**

Supporting the communities of Keyham to recover from the tragic events in August 2021 continues to be a priority. The grant from the Home Office was officially signed on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and covers a range of investment activity including; Neighbourhood Policing; Youth Engagement; Problem Solving Activities; Independent Evaluation and Data Collection and Analysis. The work continues to be delivered through the “Safer Keyham Operational Delivery Group” chaired jointly by Plymouth City Council, the OPCC and the Force. A full-time Project Manager will oversee the work for the remainder of the grant delivery period.

The Keyham Policing Team continues to work in partnership to promote the recovery and resilience of the community. Activities include daily foot patrols / regular visits to the community hub and Wolsley trust locations.

Alongside the programme of work led by my office on Keyham Community Policing, I am continuing to support Plymouth City Council in its delivery of the Safer Places Programme for Keyham. The Safer Places Programme funding from the Home Office is focused on strengthening the community safety response within Keyham, including investment in infrastructure such as CCTV, as well as funding for crime prevention training, security measures within properties and projects to support community strength. I remain committed to Plymouth CC strategic recovery group and the oversight of all the work in Keyham including the Safer Places activity.

### **2.2 Mental Health Treatment Requirements (MHTR)**

I have secured financial support for the implementation of MHTR across the whole peninsula to deliver equality of access to our communities, putting the existing services (Cornwall and Plymouth) on a sustainable footing and facilitating the expansion to Devon and Torbay. We know that mental health and substance misuse issues are linked to the behaviour of many offenders. Treatment requirements offer courts an alternative to custodial sentences (especially short custodial sentences) and seek to prevent reoffending by addressing underlying vulnerabilities.

All MHTR Sites must be developed and delivered in partnership with local commissioners, to ensure that:

- Service delivery is aligned with existing pathways, including for community mental health provision and substance misuse services.
- Collaborative decisions can be taken about service models and contracting.
- Services can be put on a financially sustainable footing in the context of funding available from the national programme.

A multi-agency Steering Group has been formed to develop an MHTR Service that covers these Service gaps. This Steering Group is currently in the process of:

- Exploring the demand on local courts and prioritising Service mobilisation.
- Localising the national service specification for MHTRs to suit the local landscape.
- Evaluating and selecting an option for procuring and contracting an MHTR Service.

### **2.3 Victim Codes of Practice (VCoP) and Scrutiny**

The Local Criminal Justice Board is overseeing a scrutiny process to assess compliance with the Victim Code of Practice (2020). The purpose of this VCoP scrutiny panel is to independently scrutinise, recognise and promote good practice, and robustly challenge areas for improvement so that the public can be assured and confident in their local criminal justice system. It has been agreed that, in working jointly with our partner agencies, the initial focus will be in relation to Domestic Abuse, Rape and Serious Sexual Offences and Violent Crime, including Violence against Women and Girls. The first panel was held in January 2022, with the findings due to be reported to LCJB on 1<sup>st</sup> March.

### **2.4 Make Amends**

The communications and engagement team produced a series of [videos](#) to support Restorative Justice Awareness Week, which ran from 21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> November. These [videos](#) featured people who had been harmed by a crime and had used the services of my Restorative Justice partner 'Make Amends'. I feel it is important that we further the public's understanding of these services.

### **2.5 HMIC Joint Thematic Inspection of the criminal justice journey for individuals with mental health needs and disorders**

Since the last Police and Crime Panel, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation has published a report following a Joint Thematic Inspection supported by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services, Her Majesty's Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate, the Care Quality Commission, Healthcare Inspectorate Wales, and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons. The inspection assessed the progress of individuals with mental health needs and disorders through the criminal justice system, from first contact with the police to release from prison.

[A joint thematic inspection of the criminal justice journey for individuals with mental health needs and disorders \(justiceinspectorates.gov.uk\)](https://justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/a-joint-thematic-inspection-of-the-criminal-justice-journey-for-individuals-with-mental-health-needs-and-disorders)

Inspectors looked at more than 300 cases from six regions, interviewed 550 professionals, and heard from 67 people with mental health issues who had been through the criminal justice system. Exeter Custody Suite was visited as part of the inspection and was highlighted as a 'good practice example', identifying that it had been purpose-built and designed with Liaison and Diversion services in mind, with excellent facilities to promote joint working.

The report concluded that the criminal justice system is failing people with a mental illness and that not enough progress had been made since the last joint inspection 12 years ago to put right critical shortfalls.

However, I am encouraged to see that improvements to the police handling of mental health have been recognised, highlighting the national coverage of liaison and diversion schemes and better availability of section 136 beds as an alternative to police custody as a "place of safety" for people in a mental health crisis.

The report made 22 recommendations in total, 7 of which are directed at police forces. I have

published my formal response to this report and recommendations on the [OPCC website](#).

## **2.6 Estates**

The Estates team are currently delivering a £16m annual revenue programme of maintenance, compliance and facilities management activity across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, covering 92 individual sites and over 160 buildings.

In addition, this year the Estates team will be delivering a range of refurbishment, new build, and remodelling capital projects across the peninsula, plus a significant amount of demolition activity.

The team have had an incredibly challenging year due to G7, operational activity, external market challenges and staffing shortages, however, despite these issues, I am pleased to report the following key highlights have been achieved so far this year:

1. The delivery of a newly centralised Forensics service building on the HQ site at Middlemoor.
2. Secured a National Police Estates award for the best non-construction project 2021, based on preparing the Police Estate for G7.
3. The sale of the under-utilised St Ives Police Station building located on Dove Street and relocation to an alternative site within the town centre.
4. Completion of a comprehensive space Audit of our new Exeter Police Station, ensuring occupancy levels are maximising the efficiency of this building.
5. Delivery of the Compliance framework in relation to asbestos, fire, legionella and electrical safety, which included the lifting of the Fire Safety 'Health and Safety' Warning notice.
6. Commenced the new Devon Property and Information Store build project.
7. Completed the phase 2 demolition works at Middlemoor.

## **3. CONNECTED**

### **3.1 Budget survey**

I have a statutory duty to seek the views of residents of the force area in relation to the totality of the policing budget. In order to meet this obligation, my communications and engagement team have conducted comprehensive qualitative and quantitative research exercises, with the details of these reported to the panel in this meeting (January 2022). This process seeks to understand sentiments on policing and expenditure plans from a wide range of individuals and this year I was pleased to see that over 5,300 people took part in the online survey, with a further 15 engaged through our focus groups. My office has become a member of the Market Research Society and undertaken training in order to maintain high levels of professionalism in this annual exercise.

### **3.2 Easy Read Police and Crime Plan**

I have published an Easy Read version of the Police and Crime Plan 2021-25. Easy Read is a method of presenting written information to make it easier to understand for people with difficulty reading. Both the [regular](#) and [Easy Read](#) versions of the plan are available to download from my office's website and printed versions are available on request.

### **3.3 Altered Not Defined: a trauma informed guide to communicating on sexual harm**

My office has been working with a lived experience advisor in order to improve the way we and Devon and Cornwall Police communicate about sexual harm. All too often campaigns designed to reduce or raise awareness of these issues take little or no care to reduce the trauma felt by those affected by these crimes. This work has two guides; one for communications professionals and one for journalists. I am grateful for the commitment of our lived experience volunteer and expert industry advice to bring this work forward. A website to host the guidance has been commissioned and is in the final stages of production. The guidance will be launched in the spring of 2022.

### **3.4 Councillor Advocates**

I continue to work closely with my Councillor Advocates, and am delighted to have 370 Councillors working with me and my office (as of December 2021). Since I launched my Police and Crime Plan, the Advocates have been encouraged to engage in delivering the plan, and the Councillor Advocate Handbook has been refreshed to reflect plan priorities.

Since the last meeting of the Police and Crime Panel, councillor advocates have been involved in community engagement activity in areas where Safer Streets programmes are operating and in the response to the Keyham shooting.

On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021, several OPCC Councillor Advocate Volunteers were shown around the Contact and Resolution Command's Police Control Room at Middlemoor Exeter. They spoke with staff and saw for themselves how the Control Room operated. Feedback from Cllrs showed that this exercise was very much appreciated. One Councillor said:

***"I was really pleased to have attended today. I have learnt so much from my visit today, the amount of information was overwhelming. I was impressed with the amount of work carried out and now completely understand the frustrations and stresses involved with police work. I will be feeding back to full council next week and hopefully get them to understand the demands on our police force. I think these tours will help to give people a better understanding of how hard your role is".***

We hope to arrange more of these opportunities in the future.

### **3.5 Marketing award**

On 8<sup>th</sup> December 8, 2021, Devon Together, the collaborative newspaper project that I joint commissioned with the NHS and Devon County Council to provide information on victim care services and vaccines during national lockdowns in 2020 and 2021, was Highly Commended in the Drum Awards Social Purpose category. The Drum Awards is a global awards program which recognises best practice, the best companies, and the best people from across the marketing and communications industry. In October, the publication won 'Best Publication' in the Chartered Institute of Public Affairs regional awards.

### **3.6 Commemoration to PC Dennis Smith QPM**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> December I was honoured to attend the memorial plaque unveiling to PC Dennis Smith QPM. PC Smith lost his life whilst on duty in 1973 in Torquay when he was shot in the course of his duties. PC Smith had confronted a suspect following a high speed chase. The suspect would then go on to kill three other people that evening. PC Smith was 44 years old. The plaque was



unveiled by Mrs Geraldine Winner, Chair of the Police Memorial Trust and wife of its founder, the late Michael Winner. The ceremony was also attended by the Chief Constable, local MP, Mayor and Leader of Torbay Council.

### **3.7 Annual assessment of police complaint and conduct performance 2020/21**

One of my statutory functions is to monitor all complaints against the police force, its officers, and staff, and to hold the Chief Constable to account for the exercise of the Chief Constable's functions under Part 2 of the Police Reform Act 2002 in relation to the handling of complaints and conduct matters.

I have put in place a number of mechanisms to fulfil this duty which includes:

- Undertaking police complaint reviews. Through this mechanism, I am able to identify areas for improvement and learning from police complaints.
- Formal reporting by the Deputy Chief Constable about performance relating to police complaints, police complaint handling and police misconduct on a quarterly basis.
- Monthly meetings between my Executive Team and Head of PSD to oversee the police handling of complaint and misconduct investigations, in particular to consider timeliness of investigations, identifying where investigation delays are and the reasons behind these delays, in addition to making reasonable and proportionate recommendations where necessary for those approaching or exceeding 12 months.
- Monitoring of Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) national comparison data of police complaint and misconduct performance. The IOPC collects data directly from police complaint and misconduct databases and reports them quarterly and annually. Where a report highlights performance that is of concern, I will require the Chief Constable to provide a response to this.

My assessment of performance in 2021 was [published on my office's website](#) in December.

### **3.8 Customer Contact and Complaint Reviews**

The volume of correspondence and phone calls into my office's public inbox and switchboard increased in 2021 compared with 2020. By the end of November 2021, our main contact lines had been used by 6516 more people than in the whole of the previous year (an increase of 180%).

Contact includes police complaints, police complaint reviews, people struggling to get through to the police, or who are experiencing delays in receiving a response from the police and people contacting the PCC as the first point of contact to report a matter to the police. I and my office have provided reassurance to people when possible, and have intervened when possible - liaising with the police, providing updates and signposting to support services such as victim care where appropriate.

When a member of the public is dissatisfied with how their complaint has been handled by their local police force, my office may be contacted to conduct a police complaint review to determine whether the police's handling of the complaint and the outcome was reasonable and proportionate. Where mistakes are identified, and the review is upheld, I will make recommendations to the police to rectify the issue.

In the calendar year 2021, we received 172 requests for a review, conducted 156 complaint reviews and upheld 22. Forty-one were invalid / wrong review body or withdrawn in the same period.



This is a relatively new area of work, and I was pleased to receive confirmation from an audit inspection of the Complaint Review Handling Services in November 2021, that their assurance opinion was substantial, and no recommendations were raised as part of their review.

#### **4. National Updates**

##### **4.1 Victims Law**

In December 2021, the Government launched a consultation on improving victims' experience of the justice system. The consultation, which covers a wide range of issues relating victims is the first step towards a new 'Victims' Law' - which will build on the foundations provided by the Victims' Code to substantially improve victims' experiences of the criminal justice system.

The consultation looks at how to make concrete improvements to victims' experience of and confidence in the criminal justice system, and the support they receive. The consultation asks questions across five key issues, focusing on: what victims should expect; performance and accountability; increasing the current levels of the Victim Surcharge; community-based support services; and possible improvements to advocacy support. The consultation will run until 3 February 2022.

[https://consult.justice.gov.uk/victim-policy/delivering-justice-for-victims/supporting\\_documents/deliveringjusticeforvictimsconsultation.pdf](https://consult.justice.gov.uk/victim-policy/delivering-justice-for-victims/supporting_documents/deliveringjusticeforvictimsconsultation.pdf)

##### **4.2 New 10 Year Drug Strategy**

In December 2021, the Government published 'From Harm to Hope: a 10 Year Drugs Plan to Cut Crime and Save Lives'. The Strategy's priorities are driven by the landmark review carried out in 2020 and 2021 by Dame Carol Black which focused on the need for a government and system wide response to tackling drugs underpinned by increased investment in treatment and recovery services.

The strategy sets out three key areas of focus:

- Targeted enforcement to break the business model of criminal supply chains
- Developing world class drug treatment and recovery services which provide a full range of evidence-based interventions to people dependent on drugs
- Addressing all drug use through meaningful consequences for drug use and a greater focus on prevention to shift behaviour and attitudes to drugs.

The Home Office has committed £300 million from its 3-year Comprehensive Spending Review funding to tackling drug supply, with a particular focus on enhancing existing county lines activity and Project ADDER.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1039240/From\\_harm\\_to\\_hope\\_PDF-final\\_bookmarked\\_v3.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1039240/From_harm_to_hope_PDF-final_bookmarked_v3.pdf)

##### **4.3 The Government's End to End Rape Review – Six Monthly Progress Report**

The Panel received a detailed report at its meeting in November 2021 on the government's End to End Rape Review which was published in June 2021. In December 2021, the government published its first 6 monthly progress report on the action plan set out in that review and also published its first Rape Scorecard which will be used to track progress against the government's stated ambition to return rape prosecutions to the levels seen in 2016.

The Progress Report sets out a number of developments that have taken place since publication,

but highlights that there is still much more to do. This includes progress on the recruitment and training of Crown Prosecution staff and a firm commitment to roll out section 28 of the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999 which will enable all victims of sexual offences to pre-record their evidence (subject to judicial discretion). The first Rape Scorecard has also been published which provides information at a national level. The government has also committed in the progress report to publishing regional scorecards from early 2022 on a quarterly basis.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1040957/rape-review-progress-update.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1040957/rape-review-progress-update.pdf)

#### **4.4 Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill**

The Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill is currently under consideration in the House of Lords, having completed its passage through the House of Commons in June 2021. The Bill is currently in Report Stage which commenced in early December 2021 and is expected to conclude this stage by the end of January 2022. A number of government amendments have been tabled for Report Stage which include: amending the definition of 'serious violence' for the new Serious Violence Duty to clarify that this can include domestic abuse and sexual violence; new provisions to strengthen police powers on protests, including a new criminal offence of 'locking-on'; and new offences relating to voyeurism of breastfeeding. It is currently expected that the Bill will receive Royal Assent in early 2022.

#### **4.5 Government proposals to establish a Road Collisions Investigation Branch**

In October, the Department for Transport published proposals to establish a Road Collisions Investigation Branch. This would be similar in role and remit to the equivalents in the rail, air and maritime sectors. The purpose of the RCIB would be to examine the cause of fatal and serious road collisions with the aim of learning and prevention. The intention would not be to find blame or apportion liability as this sits with the police and others, but to analyse the causes of, and determine the most effective measures to, tackle road traffic collisions. The consultation was open from 28<sup>th</sup> October till 9<sup>th</sup> December. Both my office and the APCC have indicated support for these proposals as long as lines of accountability remain clear.



**Alison Hernandez**

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Report prepared on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022



## **Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel**

**28<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

### **DOMESTIC ABUSE ACT 2021**

#### **1. Introduction**

1.1. As requested by the Police and Crime Panel, this paper provides information on the content of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and its implementation.

#### **2. The Domestic Abuse Act 2021**

2.1. In April 2021 the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 (the Domestic Abuse Act) received Royal Assent and passed into law following its consideration by Parliament. The legislation followed a government consultation in 2018 on Transforming the Response to Domestic Abuse and consultation on a draft Domestic Abuse Bill in 2019.

2.2. The Domestic Abuse Act contains a wide range of measures to enhance the response across the criminal justice and community safety landscape to domestic abuse. It aims to ensure that victims have the confidence to come forward and report their experiences, safe in the knowledge that the state will do everything it can, both to support them and their children and pursue the abuser.

#### **3. Key provisions within the Domestic Abuse Act 2021**

3.1. The Domestic Abuse Act contains a number of key changes to the legislative framework. A summary of the key changes is set out at Annex A to this report but the Panel may be particularly interested to note the following:

3.2. *New definition of domestic abuse:* a new statutory definition of domestic abuse is being introduced, emphasising that domestic abuse is not just physical violence, but can also be emotional, controlling or coercive, and economic abuse. The definition also specifies that children who witness domestic abuse are also considered to be victims.

3.3. *Domestic Abuse Commissioner:* the legislation establishes in law the independent office of Domestic Abuse Commissioner (the DA Commissioner), Nicole Jacobs. The DA Commissioner provides national leadership on domestic abuse issues and plays a key role in overseeing and monitoring the provision of domestic abuse services in England and Wales. The DA Commissioner is tasked with encouraging good practice



in preventing domestic abuse; identifying victims and survivors, and perpetrators of domestic abuse, as well as children affected by domestic abuse; and improving the protection and provision of support to people affected by domestic abuse. They have the power to publish reports and lay them before Parliament including on the need for certain domestic abuse services in England and the provision of such services and specified public bodies, including local authorities and the Commissioner have a duty to cooperate with the Commissioner and to respond to any recommendations made by the DA Commissioner within 56 days. Further information about the DA Commissioner's work can be found at [www.domesticabusecommissioner.uk](http://www.domesticabusecommissioner.uk).

- 3.4. *Local authority duties*: the legislation places a new duty on local authorities to establish a Domestic Abuse Partnership Board and to develop local strategies for tackling domestic abuse. It also obliges local authorities to ensure that support services are available for victims of domestic abuse who are housed in safe accommodation. The government has issued statutory guidance for local authorities regarding the operation of these new duties and additional new burdens funding to support their implementation has been provided to local authorities by government. One of the key topic debated during the Bill's passage was the potential need for enhanced duties regarding the provision of community based support services for all victims of domestic abuse and this issue is currently being considered in the Victims Law Consultation which is referred to in section 5 of this report.
- 3.5. *Domestic Abuse Protection Notices and Domestic Abuse Protection Orders*: the legislation provides a new system of Domestic Abuse Protection Notice and Domestic Abuse Protection Order which will replace the existing Domestic Violence Protection Order regime. These new orders will enable the courts to require offenders to undertake positive actions, such as counselling and treatment as well as enabling the setting of restrictions on offenders.
- 3.6. *Introduction of a number of new offences*: including the extension of the existing offence of controlling or coercive behaviour to cover post-separation abuse; extending the offence of disclosing private sexual photographs and films with intent to cause distress (known as the "revenge porn" offence) to cover threats to disclose such material; creating a new offence of non-fatal strangulation or suffocation of another person; and clarifying in statute the general proposition that a person may not consent to the infliction of serious harm and, by extension, is unable to consent to their own death (what is often called the Rough Sex Defence).
- 3.7. *Criminal justice and policing processes*: including prohibiting perpetrators from cross-examining their victims in person in civil and family courts and a new statutory presumption that victims of domestic abuse are eligible for special measures in the criminal, civil and family courts. The legislation also places the current Clare's Law arrangements around disclosure of past offences to a partner onto a statutory footing.

3.8. *Housing*: providing that all eligible homeless victims of domestic abuse automatically have ‘priority need’ for assistance and measures to ensure the continuation of lifetime tenancies where a victim of domestic abuse need to be granted a new secure tenancy.

#### **4. Implementation of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021**

4.1 Whilst some provisions of the Domestic Abuse Act came into effect in April 2021 upon Royal Assent the majority of provisions will be implemented over a longer time period. The Home Office has published a commencement schedule which will be regularly updated [Domestic Abuse Act 2021 commencement schedule - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97444/Domestic_Abuse_Act_2021_commencement_schedule.pdf) and the timeframes set out in the schedule may be subject to amendment.

4.2 Some of the key provisions of the Bill are already in effect, including:

- New statutory definitions of ‘domestic abuse’ and ‘personal connection’ (although the extension to include children is not expected until some time in 2022)
- Establishment of 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 on threats to disclose sexual photos or films to cause distress
- Clarification that consent to serious harm for sexual gratification is not a defence.

4.3 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 and 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

4.4 There are some measures within the Domestic Abuse 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.

4.5 Further information on the timescales for implementation of many provisions and guidance on implementation arrangements and detailed practices is still awaited from the Home Office but policing, local authority and criminal justice agencies are working locally and nationally to prepare for their implementation.

4.6 Devon and Cornwall Police have established a Domestic Abuse Act Implementation Working Group which includes representation from local Community Safety

Partnerships, the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's Office and the OPCC as well as a wide range of policing representatives including learning and development, corporate communications and victim care. The Group which is led by the Devon and Cornwall Police Lead for Domestic Abuse has begun to prepare for implementation but further information is awaited from the Home Office regarding implementation plans and timeframes for many of the provisions. Devon and Cornwall Police are also working with regional and national policing leads on domestic abuse to share information and best practice in preparation for the legislative changes.

4.7 The Panel may wish to be aware that Devon and Cornwall Police is seeking to be one of the pilot areas for the new Domestic Abuse Protection Orders, recognising the significant benefits that these new orders could bring to supporting victims and increasing our focus on addressing perpetrator behaviours. Information about how the pilots will operate and whether Devon and Cornwall will be considered as a pilot location is still awaited from the Home Office.

4.8 Local authorities across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly have put in place their own structures and approaches to preparing for the changes set out in the legislation, working in many cases with and through their CSP. Devon and Cornwall Police and the OPCC are engaged in this work in support of the CSP. Some of the most significant changes for local authorities have already been introduced, with the new duty to provide support services for victims in refuges and secure accommodation and to establish local Domestic Abuse Partnership Boards and set out a local strategy coming into effect in the final months of 2021.

## 5. Wider National Landscape

5.1 In addition to the Domestic Abuse Act and the recently published national Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy there are a number of other national developments which are currently being considered:

5.2 ***Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill***: the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill is currently being considered by the House of Lords following its passage through the House of Commons in 2021. The Bill is reaching its final stages of consideration and is expected to become law by Spring 2022. The Bill contains a number of measures which relate to domestic abuse, including a new regulatory regime for the inspection of digital devices; a new duty on local community safety and criminal justice partners to prevent serious violence and extending the timeframe within which domestic abuse victims are able to report certain offences. The Bill is due to complete Report Stage in the House of Lords by the end of January 2022 and will then move into its final stages.

5.3 ***Domestic Abuse Strategy***: the government is expected to publish a new Domestic Abuse Strategy in the next few weeks. This strategy is expected to include a specific

focus on action to tackle perpetrators of domestic abuse as well as setting out the government's approach to supporting and assisting victims of these offences. It is not known at this time whether the government will be releasing any additional funding to support the provision of perpetrator programmes within local areas. The current funding that has been secured by the Commissioner from the Home Office ends on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. This funding has been supporting a range of initiatives delivered by local authorities over the past eighteen months, including specialist IDVAs in areas such as children and young people and behavioural change and wider bystander awareness programmes and training. The Commissioner and PCCs nationally are continuing to engage with officials from the Home Office regarding future funding and OPCC officials are in regular engagement with local authority partners on this matter.

- 5.4 ***Victims Law Consultation:*** in December 2021 the Government launched a consultation on improving victims' experience of the justice system. The consultation, which covers a wide range of issues relating victims is the first step towards a new 'Victims' Law' based upon the Victims' Code of Practice. The consultation also seeks views on establishing a wider duty on local authorities with regards to the provision of community based services for victims of domestic abuse (the DA Act places specific responsibilities on local authorities with regards to the provision of such services to victims who are in refuge accommodation). Further information on this consultation is provided in the PCC Update Report to this meeting.

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Report prepared on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022



## ANNEX A – KEY PROVISIONS OF THE DOMESTIC ABUSE ACT 2021

### Summary from [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

- i. Creating a new statutory definition of domestic abuse, emphasising that domestic abuse is not just physical violence, but can also be emotional, controlling or coercive, and economic abuse.
- ii. Establishing in law the office of Domestic Abuse Commissioner and setting out the Commissioner's functions and powers.
- iii. Providing for a new Domestic Abuse Protection Notice and Domestic Abuse Protection Order which will replace the existing Domestic Violence Protection Order regime. These new orders will enable the courts to require offenders to undertake positive actions, such as counselling and treatment.
- iv. Placing a duty on local authorities in England to provide accommodation based support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in refuges and other safe accommodation.
- v. Requiring local authorities to establish local Domestic Abuse Partnership Boards and to create a local Domestic Abuse Strategy.
- vi. Prohibiting perpetrators of abuse from cross-examining their victims in person in the civil and family courts in England and Wales.
- vii. Creating a statutory presumption that victims of domestic abuse are eligible for special measures in the criminal, civil and family courts.
- viii. Clarifying circumstances in which a court may make a barring order under section 91(14) of the Children Act 1989 to prevent family proceedings that further traumatise victims.
- ix. Extending the existing offence of controlling or coercive behaviour to cover post-separation abuse.
- x. Extending offence of disclosing private sexual photographs and films with intent to cause distress (known as the "revenge porn" offence) to cover threats to disclose such material.
- xi. Creating a new offence of non-fatal strangulation or suffocation of another person.
- xii. Clarifying in statute the general proposition that a person may not consent to the infliction of serious harm and, by extension, is unable to consent to their own death (what is often called the Rough Sex Defence).
- xiii. Extending the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the criminal courts in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland to further violent and sexual offences.
- xiv. Providing for a statutory domestic abuse perpetrator strategy.
- xv. Enabling domestic abuse offenders to be subject to polygraph testing as a condition of their licence following their release from custody.
- xvi. Placing the guidance supporting the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme ("Clare's law") on a statutory footing.
- xvii. Providing that all eligible homeless victims of domestic abuse automatically have 'priority need' for homelessness assistance.
- xviii. Ensuring that where a local authority, for reasons connected with domestic abuse, grants a new secure tenancy to a social tenant who had or has a secure lifetime or assured tenancy (other than an assured shorthold tenancy) it must be a secure lifetime tenancy.
- xix. Prohibiting GPs and other health professionals in general practice from charging a victim of domestic abuse for a letter to support an application for legal aid.
- xx. Providing for a statutory code of practice relating to the processing of domestic abuse data for immigration purposes.





## **Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel**

**28<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

### **SAFER STREETS FUND**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. This paper provides an update on the Safer Streets Fund successes across Devon and Cornwall funded by the Home Office from January 2020. It provides information on the three funding rounds to date and expected plans for the future.

#### **2. The Safer Streets Fund**

##### *Background*

- 2.1 The Safer Streets Fund (the SSF) was launched in January 2020 and was part of the government's 2019 election manifesto commitment to tackling crime. There have been three rounds of the SSF to date and it is expected that a further round will be launched shortly for 2022-23.
- 2.2 The first two rounds of the SSF were focused exclusively on preventing acquisitive crime in areas with high crime rates for burglary, robbery, vehicle theft and theft from the person. The third round was focused on personal safety and tackling violence against women and girls (VAWG) and was launched in June 2021 as part of the government's wider response to tackling VAWG.
- 2.3 The precise scope, remit and process for each of the SSF rounds has varied but there are common features. In all three rounds there has been a requirement for initiatives to be focused on a small defined geographic area and has allowed funding for environmental changes, such as enhanced CCTV and street lighting, as well as wider crime prevention initiatives, including training. The SSF allows for a maximum of three bids to be submitted within a policing area which are rated in order of priority by the Police and Crime Commissioner (the Commissioner). For the second and third SSF rounds bids could be submitted by either the Commissioner or a local authority but there remains a maximum of three bids per policing area and the Commissioner was responsible for determining the priority order of bids.
- 2.4 The funding is allocated by the Home Office through a primary, secondary and tertiary assessment process with all primary bids considered first. If funding remains in the national fund after primary bids are assessed then secondary bids are scored and considered and so on. Funding awards have been for a single financial year (or part of a financial year) requiring all works to be completed by the end of March.



- 2.5 The Panel has been regularly updated over the past 18 months on the progress of SSF projects within Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. A brief outline is set out below of each of the three bidding rounds and the initiatives which have received funding.

*Local Approach*

- 2.6 The Commissioner has recognised the importance of Safer Streets approaches in her new Police and Crime Plan 2021-25 in supporting the delivery of Safe, Resilient and Connected Communities across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. Since its launch the Commissioner and the OPCC have worked closely with local authorities, Devon and Cornwall Police and wider partners to identify and maximise the opportunities provided by this scheme for our communities and will continue to do so.
- 2.7 The first two SSF rounds focused on acquisitive crime have had specific crime rate eligibility criteria. Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly have some of the lowest crime rates nationally for these crime types and as such only a small number of locations were eligible for consideration. The third SSF round which focused on VAWG did not have a specific crime rate threshold. The Commissioner, in discussion with Devon and Cornwall Police considered a range of evidence to identify the areas with the greatest need in which the funding would deliver the greatest impact. This process identified that the focus should be on our university towns and cities, in particular given the short time window for delivery between November and March.
- 2.8 The development of SSF bids is a resource intensive process which typically operates over a 6-8 week bidding window. It involves: significant data analysis to determine eligible locations and to understand the nature of relevant offences; partnership engagement on the selection of bid areas and decisions regarding prioritisation, community engagement on proposals; and the conducting of street lighting and CCTV surveys as well as Environmental Visual Audits by trained Designing Out Crime Officers to assess areas of risk and recommend interventions for identified locations.
- 2.9 To date our bids for the SSF programmes have focused on three broad strands of activity:
- a) environmental improvements (such as improved CCTV and street lighting)
  - b) crime prevention (including target hardening, new Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and crime prevention training)
  - c) community strength and resilience (helping communities to reclaim public spaces and enhance community pride through park improvements, murals etc and training to support the community to adopt restorative approaches to community issues).
- 2.10 Delivery of the SSF projects has been managed locally by local authorities and the OPCC using a partnership approach. Multi agency project boards have been set up to involve partners and community groups in shaping and steering delivery and to lead specific areas of each project. Successful bids report on a quarterly basis to the Home Office on their delivery.
- 2.11 The SSF is a valuable crime prevention investment opportunity. It has provided over £1.6 million of Home Office funding to the four local SSF projects in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly over 2020/21 and 2021/22 as part of the Government commitment in the Beating Crime Plan. These funds have enabled investment in new key infrastructure, new crime prevention initiatives and community strength programmes in some of the highest crime areas in our policing area.

- 2.12 Each round of the SSF is being independently evaluated by the Home Office. The impact of the SSF initiatives in preventing crime will be assessed over a three-year timeframe, although it is recognised that data comparisons will be impacted by restrictions relating to the pandemic during 2020 and 2021.

### **3. Safer Streets Fund 1 - Stonehouse, Plymouth (Stronger North Stonehouse)**

- 3.1 The OPCC worked with Devon and Cornwall Police, Plymouth City Council and wider partners to prepare and submit a bid for North Stonehouse in Plymouth which had a primary focus on burglary. In July 2020 it was announced that the bid had been successful with £546,000 awarded for North Stonehouse, with work required to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.
- 3.2 A collaborative project delivery team, led jointly by the OPCC and Plymouth City Council, brought together Devon and Cornwall Police, Neighbourhood Watch, Make Amends and local community organisations to deliver the Stronger North Stonehouse Project. There have been three core strands of activity:
- *Environment*: investment in additional CCTV and improved street lighting across North Stonehouse, including in Victoria Park and Patna Park
  - *Crime Prevention*: a series of initiatives including crime prevention training and toolkits, the establishment of new Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, launch of a Feel Safe Scheme by Neighbourhood Watch providing security and repairs for vulnerable residents and a programme of target hardening for properties which have been previously been subject to burglary.
  - *Community Strength*: a series of small projects to assist the community in reclaiming its public spaces, including small grants for park improvements and community projects, a graffiti clean-up programme, the installation of way markers and establishing a new community network to support ongoing action on community safety and resilience.
- 3.3 The Project Team included several local community groups based in Stonehouse who led on the delivery of key aspects of the community work strand. This included the Sparks Fund for community projects providing 'small sparks' funding of up to £250 and 'big sparks' grants of up to £3,000, which was managed by Nudge Community Builders and the graffiti clean-up and mural installation project which was led by Cliik, both of which are charitable community benefit societies based in Stonehouse delivering a range of projects and initiatives for the area.
- 3.4 Delivery of many aspects of the project were challenged by the pandemic restrictions which were in force for much of the delivery period, with approaches and activities evolving and adjusting to deal with the changing environment. This included a switch to virtual training and workshops as well as the launch of a printed North Stonehouse Journal newspaper to ensure that local residents could be consulted and engaged in the initiatives being delivered through the programme when face to face engagement was not able to take place.
- 3.5 In July 2021 the Panel was advised that the Commissioner and Plymouth City Council had come together to provide some additional funding and resources to support the continued operation of Stronger North Stonehouse project up until June 2022. This additional support was provided in recognition of the impact that the pandemic had on delivery of some of the original plans for the project. This additional support has for example enabled the development

of the new Stronger North Stonehouse Network, face to face training in areas such as crime prevention and restorative justice and supported the delivery of community events and engagement opportunities.

- 3.6 Further information about all of the initiatives under the Stronger North Stonehouse Project can be found at [www.strongernorthstonehouse.co.uk](http://www.strongernorthstonehouse.co.uk) and in the Stronger North Stonehouse Journal [www.stonehousevoice.org/stronger-north-stonehouse-journal/](http://www.stonehousevoice.org/stronger-north-stonehouse-journal/)
- 3.7 The work carried out within Stronger North Stonehouse has been transformational in terms of the relationships between statutory agencies, partners and the local area. It has helped and supported the local community to deliver community safety improvements that they wanted to see, with projects steered and led by community representatives and consultation. Its positive impact has been recognised nationally with project leads invited to speak at national conferences to highlight the approach and best practice case studies on North Stonehouse published by the Local Government Association.

#### **4. Safer Streets Fund 2 – Exeter (Safer Central Exeter)**

- 4.1 The second round of SSF (SSF 2) was launched in January 2021 for delivery in 2021/22. The fund provided up to £20 million across England and Wales for preventative initiatives focused on acquisitive crime.
- 4.2 Exeter City Council and the OPCC worked with Devon and Cornwall Police and wider partners to prepare and submit a bid to SSF 2 in March 2021 for the city centre area. In June 2021 it was announced that Exeter City Council had been successful in its application and were awarded £432,000 for delivery of the project by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Combined with match funding investment from partners the total bid value was in excess of £550,000 and will support a series of investments and projects across the city centre area which has been branded as Safer Central Exeter.
- 4.3 Investments being made through SSF 2 in Exeter include:
- *Environment*: additional CCTV cameras across the city centre and mobile CCTV camera capacity to enhance capable guardianship and improvements to street lighting in key locations such as Mary Arches Street.
  - *Crime Prevention*: a series of initiatives including crime prevention training and toolkits, the establishment of new NHW Schemes and a Student Watch Scheme, launch of a Feel Safe Scheme by NHW providing security and repairs for vulnerable residents and target hardening for residential properties. The project also involves a series of proactive policing days focused on acquisitive crime.
  - *Community Strength*: a series of projects to assist the community in reclaiming its public spaces, including small grants for park improvements in Northenhay Park and community projects and a graffiti clean-up and mural programme,
- 4.4 Delivery of the project is being led by Exeter Council through the Exeter Community Safety Partnership and involves a range of partners including the OPCC, Devon and Cornwall Police, Neighbourhood Watch, Unlimited Church, the University of Exeter and the Exeter Businesses Against Crime Partnership.

- 4.5 In January 2022 the Home Office confirmed that Exeter would receive an additional £50,000 in top up funding for the final three months of the project. This additional funding has been secured to: deliver more street lighting in identified locations, including Sidwell Street and South Street; lighting enhancements in the high street area to encourage greater occupation and deter offenders; and a murals programme in a number of city centre alleyways to deter future graffiti. This additional award takes the total Home Office funding awarded to the Safer Central Exeter Project to £482,000.
- 4.6 Further information about all of the initiatives which are being delivered through the Safer Central Exeter Project can be found at <https://exeter.gov.uk/clean-safe-city/community-safety/safer-central-exeter/> with regular updates on the project being provided through social media and a Safer Central Exeter Newsletter.

*Safety of Women at Night Fund - Exeter*

- 4.7 In late July 2021 the Home Office launched a further funding opportunity, the Safety of Women at Night (SWAN) Fund.
- 4.8 The OPCC worked with Exeter Community Safety Partnership and a range of partners including CoLab, InExeter and the University of Exeter to support the development of a bid for the SWAN Fund. The bid focused on a number of measures including the relaunch of the Best Bar None scheme in Exeter, the development and delivery of education and awareness projects such as bystander training for people working in the night time economy and train the trainer programmes working with women and girls. The University of Exeter has led the bid and it was announced in November 2021 that the bid for £72,000 had been successful. The OPCC are now working with the University, the Community Safety Partnership and wider partners to support delivery of the project which is closely aligned with the Safer Central Exeter Project.

**5. Safer Streets Fund 3 (VAWG) – Plymouth and Falmouth**

- 5.1 In early June 2021 the Home Office launched a third round of the SSF (SSF 3) for delivery by the end of March 2022. Unlike the first two rounds of SSF which focused on acquisitive crime, this funding opportunity was launched as part of the government's response to tackling violence against women and girls and provided up to £25 million in funding, with all 43 policing areas and British Transport Police eligible to submit bids.
- 5.2 The OPCC worked with Plymouth City Council and Cornwall Council to support the submission of two bids by the local authorities to SSF 3 in July 2021 covering Plymouth City Centre and Falmouth. In October 2021 it was announced that both bids had been successful and the OPCC are continuing to work with partners to support delivery of these projects.

*Plymouth*

- 5.3 Plymouth City Council was awarded £512,000 under SSF 3 for a range of projects and activities focused on Stonehouse, Plymouth Hoe, the Barbican, the city centre and the Mutley/North Hill areas of the city.
- *Infrastructure:* The funding is supporting a number of infrastructure initiatives, including the provision of additional CCTV cameras and enhanced street lighting in key locations as well as providing direct links for the public into the city's CCTV control room.

- *Crime prevention:* A significant focus of the project is on behaviour change and prevention with delivery of numerous education and awareness schemes underway within the city. These include Bystander Awareness Training for people working in the night-time economy (through a combination of one-off sessions and train the trainer courses to enable long term adoption), education in schools in partnership with the NSPCC and a Sex Worker Outreach project. A new Student Safety Programme and the launch of a Student Watch Scheme are also being delivered as part of the project led by the University of Plymouth and Devon and Cornwall Community Watch.
- *Community:* including graffiti clean-ups and the installation of murals in Mutley and Stonehouse to help reclaim public spaces as well as support for the city's long established street pastor scheme which plays an important role in helping to safeguard people within the city's evening and night time economy.

5.4 Delivery of the SSF 3 Project in Plymouth is being managed through a partnership approach under Safer Plymouth which brings together a wide range of partners, including Plymouth City Council, Devon and Cornwall Community Watch, the University of Plymouth, NSPCC, Street Pastors, the OPCC and Trevi House (a women's and children's charity based in Plymouth).

5.5 In January 2022 the Home Office confirmed Plymouth would receive an additional £23,000 in top up funding for the final three months of the project. This additional funding will be used to: support the operation of night time economy marshals over January-March 2022; deliver training and mentoring to support men and boys to consider issues relating to gender-based violence; and enhancing the use of lived experience in policy, practice and decision making, including supporting the Plymouth VAWG Commission's engagement with people with lived experience. This takes the Home Office award to Plymouth for SSF 3 for 2021/22 to £535,000.

#### *Falmouth*

5.6 Cornwall Council was awarded just over £33,000 for Falmouth and is working in partnership with Falmouth Town Council and the Universities to deliver the project.

- *Infrastructure:* installation of six upgraded CCTV cameras for the town centre.
- *Crime prevention:* a programme of Bystander Training for staff employed in the night-time economy. The Don't Be a Bystander programme was launched in late 2021 as part of the 16 Days of Action to End Gender Based Violence and provides a combination of one-off sessions and train the trainer courses.
- *Community:* support for student led awareness campaigns and support for women and girls through the Universities.

5.7 In January 2022 the Home Office confirmed that Falmouth would receive an additional £33,500 in top up funding for the final three months of the project. This additional funding will be used to: deliver lighting enhancements in Church Street Car Park; provide Healthy Relationships training for males aged 16-24 years; expand the existing bystander awareness training; deliver a new communications campaign focused on bystanders co-designed with university students; and to host a series of pop up 'Safe Spaces' for women and girls in February 2022 offering support, help and advice from expert practitioners. This takes the Home Office award for Falmouth for SSF 3 for 2021/22 to over £66,000.

## **6. Future Safer Streets Fund Opportunities**

6.1 The Commissioner has recognised the importance of Safer Streets approaches in her new Police and Crime Plan 2021-25 and has confirmed her intention to focus future bids on high crime areas within Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

6.2 In December 2021 the government published its provisional police funding settlement for 2022/3. The provisional settlement confirmed that the government has allocated £150 million per annum for crime prevention initiatives for the next three years. It is our current expectation that some of that funding will be directed towards a fourth SSF round in 2022/23 but we await further information from the Home Office to confirm this.

**Contact for further information:**

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Report prepared on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022

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## DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

28<sup>th</sup> January 2022

### 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 11<sup>th</sup> May 2021 is shown in the table below. This paper covers the period up to 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022.
2. One formal complaint was received against the Commissioner in the last reporting period. This complaint was discussed with the Chair of the Police and Crime Panel who agreed that local resolution was an appropriate way of handling the complaint. A letter was sent to the complainant by the Chief Executive and the complaint has now been finalised.

Dates	Complaints received	Number of Complaint recorded	Number of Complaints unrecorded	Total	Complaints forwarded to IOPC by the OPCC
11 <sup>th</sup> May – 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	0	0	0	0	0
8 <sup>th</sup> September – 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2021	0	0	0	0	0
21 <sup>st</sup> October-19 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	1	1	0	1	0
<b>Grand total</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

#### Contact for further information

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Report prepared 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022



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## Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel

### Work Programme 2021 - 22

Please note that the work programme is a 'live' document and subject to change at short notice.

## Future Items

Agenda items to be scheduled	Action
Neighbourhood Watch	
Traveller Legislation Update	
Police Legitimacy	
Recruitment Plan	
Serious and Organised Crime	
Public contact; I01 and reopening of front desks	
Neighbourhood teams; Councillor Advocate Scheme and Community youth projects	
County Lines	
<b>Items to be monitored</b>	
I01 and recommendations	

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