



Police and Crime Panel

Date: Thursday, 28 September 2023
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Council Chamber, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

Members (Quorum: 3)

Dr Elizabeth Mytton, Mr Mike Short,
Cllrs: Pete Barrow, Pauline Batstone, Graham Carr-Jones, Les Fry, Sherry Jespersen,
Patrick Canavan, David Flagg, Alasdair Keddie, Peter Sidaway and Tony Trent

Chief Executive: Matt Prosser, County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1XJ

For more information about this agenda please contact Democratic Services
Meeting Contact 01305 224202 - elaine.tibble@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting, apart from any items listed in the exempt part of this agenda.

For easy access to all the council's committee agendas and minutes download the free public app called Modern.Gov for use on any iPad, Android, and Windows tablet. Once downloaded select Dorset Council.

Agenda

Item		Pages
1.	APOLOGIES	
	To receive any apologies for absence.	
2.	MINUTES	5 - 26
	To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2023.	
3.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	To disclose any pecuniary, other registrable or non-registrable interests as set out in the adopted Code of Conduct. In making their disclosure councillors are asked to state the agenda item, the nature of the interest and any action they propose to take as part of their declaration.	
	If required, further advice should be sought from the Monitoring Officer	

in advance of the meeting.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Representatives of town or parish councils and members of the public who live, work, or represent an organisation within the Dorset Council area are welcome to submit either 1 question or 1 statement for each meeting. You are welcome to attend the meeting in person or via MS Teams to read out your question and to receive the response. If you submit a statement for the committee this will be circulated to all members of the committee in advance of the meeting as a supplement to the agenda and appended to the minutes for the formal record but will not be read out at the meeting. **The first 8 questions and the first 8 statements received from members of the public or organisations for each meeting will be accepted on a first come first served basis in accordance with the deadline set out below.** Further information read [Public Participation - Dorset Council](#)

All submissions must be emailed in full to elaine.tibble@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk by 8.30am on Monday 25 September.

When submitting your question or statement please note that:

- You can submit 1 question or 1 statement.
- a question may include a short pre-amble to set the context.
- It must be a single question and any sub-divided questions will not be permitted.
- Each question will consist of no more than 450 words, and you will be given up to 3 minutes to present your question.
- when submitting a question please indicate who the question is for (e.g., the name of the committee or Portfolio Holder)
- Include your name, address, and contact details. Only your name will be published but we may need your other details to contact you about your question or statement in advance of the meeting.
- questions and statements received in line with the council's rules for public participation will be published as a supplement to the agenda.
- all questions, statements and responses will be published in full within the minutes of the meeting.

[Dorset Council Constitution](#) - Procedure Rule 9

Councillor Questions

Councillors can submit up to two valid questions at each meeting and sub divided questions count towards this total. Questions and statements received will be published as a supplement to the agenda and all questions, statements and responses will be published in full within the minutes of the meeting.

The submissions must be emailed in full to elaine.tibble@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk by 8.30am on Monday 25

September.

[Dorset Council Constitution](#) – Procedure Rule 13

5. Q1 MONITORING REPORT 2023/24 27 - 38

To receive the Q1 monitoring report 2023/24.

6. VISIBLE POLICING IN THE COMMUNITY 39 - 50

This paper provides an update on Priority Two within the Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) Police and Crime Plan – to Make Policing More Visible and Connected. It will detail progress to date and the actions undertaken by Dorset Police and the PCC to meet this priority. This paper also seeks to address seven Key Lines of Enquiry as provided by the Dorset Police and Crime Panel.

7. SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE 51 - 64

This paper provides an update on the Police and Crime Commissioner's work to support young people. This paper also seeks to address six Key Lines of Enquiry as provided by the Dorset Police and Crime Panel.

8. COMPLAINTS UPDATE

To receive a verbal update and:

- a) Appoint five panel members to sit on the Complaints Sub-Committee
- b) Appoint a Chair and Vice Chair for the Complaints Sub-Committee

9. FORWARD PLAN 65 - 66

To receive and review the PCP Forward Plan.

10. URGENT ITEMS

To consider any items of business which the Chairman has had prior notification and considers to be urgent pursuant to section 100B (4) b) of the Local Government Act 1972. The reason for the urgency shall be recorded in the minutes.

11. EXEMPT BUSINESS

To move the exclusion of the press and the public for the following item in view of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 3 of schedule 12 A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

The public and the press will be asked to leave the meeting whilst the item of business is considered.

There is no scheduled exempt business to report.



POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11 JULY 2023

Present: Cllrs Mike Short, Iain McVie, Pete Barrow, Les Fry, Sherry Jespersen, Patrick Canavan, David Flagg, Alasdair Keddie, Tony Trent and Peter Sidaway

Apologies: Cllrs Graham Carr-Jones and Andrew Kerby

Officers present (for all or part of the meeting):

Simon Bullock (Chief Executive, OPCC), Marc Eyre (Service Manager for Assurance), Elaine Tibble (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Adam Harrold (OPCC Director of Operations), Julie Strange (OPCC Chief Finance Officer) and David Sidwick (Police and Crime Commissioner)

1. **Introductions and election of Vice Chair**

The Chairman invited the members of the panel to introduce themselves and thanked those outgoing members – Cllrs Dove, Taylor, Haines, Johnson, Rigby and Howell.

He also thanked independent member Mr Iain McVie for his 11 years of service to the panel.

Proposed by Cllr Jespersen, seconded by Cllr Barrow.

Decision: that Cllr Les Fry be elected as Vice-Chair for the duration of the current municipal year.

2. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2023 were confirmed and signed.

Panel update on the actions noted from the last meeting: (06:25 on recording)

The Force's Gold Group findings on 101 and emergency response. (06:25 on recording and appendix 1)

Local implementation of the "From harm to hope drug strategy" (10:47 on recording)

Operation Soteria Bluestone (15:40 on recording and appendix 1) In response to a member question regarding Dorset Force's performance against others in the Soteria project and any learning from the outcomes. The PCC would look into this and respond.

Additions for the workplan – Serious violence, Duty Legislation and Domestic Abuse.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests were made at the meeting.

4. **Public Participation**

There were no statements or questions from Town and Parish Councils at the meeting.

5. **Q4 Monitoring Report 2022/23 (00:27:20 on recording)**

Prior to the PCC introducing the Q4 Monitoring Report the panel had the opportunity to put forward questions following a number of issues raised both nationally and locally. (27:20 on recording together with follow up questions) (and appendix 1).

Action: A follow up report to be presented to the panel in 6-9 months' time to ensure changes from the Police Race Action Plan were embedded and programme a deep dive on the Race Plan as part of the panel's ongoing business.

Following panel questions and answers, the PCC presented his Monitoring Report. (01:20:24 on recording).

Cut crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB).

The PCC highlighted areas of the report, including his Operation Relentless Community Fund which was available for community groups to apply for to help combat ASB. The work of the Force Cyber Crime Officer and road safety for young people

The PCC responded to questions relating to shop lifting which needed a multi partner approach. The Safer Dorset Partnership met on a quarterly basis with the three main threads of, trying to improve reporting, better engagement with businesses, prevention and cyber crime which would hopefully extend to organised crime and licenced premises.

Make Policing more visible and connected.

The PCC updated panel members on recruitment and community contact points. Panel questions and responses are attached at appendix 1

Supplementary panel questions and responses (01:46:49 on recording), with regard to uplift numbers and visibility including in rural areas, communication between police and community and 101 response times.

Fight violent crime and high harm (02:15:05 on recording)

The PCC picked out some of the highlights, combating Drugs Rartnership, recruitment of CDB Business Manager. The Call it Out Campaign and Operation Encompass the school safeguarding programme.

Fight Rural Crime (02:19:17 on recording)

Rural resources were in place, the Dorset Partnership against Rural Crime allowed partnership working at a national level. Dorset Police had hosted the first South West conference rural crime.

Panel questions and responses (appendix 1)

Put Victims and Communities First (02:30:28 on recording)

The PCC drew panel members attention to the increase in PCC funding for offender tags, the importance of sobriety tags, support for victims of hate crimes.

There were no panel questions.

Make Every Penny Count (02:33:19 on recording)

A new Chief Constable had been recruited with a range of experiences. Confirmation had been received from the Ministry of Justice that the Core Victims Fund associated funds would be renewed totalling £1.35m.

Panel questions and responses are at appendix 1.

In accordance with procedural rule 8.1 a vote was taken to extend the duration of the meeting.

6. **Protection of people in the night time economy (Operation Vigilant) (02:50:10 on recording)**

The Chairman thanked the officers of the OPCC for the report which had responded to all the key lines of enquiry. An introduction was not considered necessary as members had read the report and therefore commenced with questions to the PCC.

The questions and responses are attached at appendix 1 of these minutes.

In response to a question from the Chairman the PCC explained how he was monitoring the Combating Drugs Partnership and driving down drug related crime. The CDPs were still in infancy, however further guidance had been produced. He highlighted the effects of Operation Scorpion which was hostile to drug use. There were a number of themes as part of this operation, the current theme was combating cannabis farms and since being in operation there had been good advances.

The PCC was asked what action he had taken in order to gauge public perception on the “assurance of the additional officers” visibility in Bournemouth and Weymouth?.

The PCC would be taking a deeper dive into this for the next meeting but the work so far included a number of extra patrols in both areas, Weymouth were having 100 days of summer which was going well. Bournemouth had a number of new officers start in May. The PCC had spent time out with officers and both areas had seen a big increase in visibility. He spoke to stake holders and businesses on a

regular basis to get feedback and corresponded with thousands of residents each year.

Quarterly satisfaction surveys and summer consultations were also carried out.

The Chairman advised that Cllr Keddie would be working on some key lines of enquiry for the next meeting to see what action was being undertaken to reach out to the public to see how they felt about policing.

7. **PCC Annual Report (03:10:01 on recording)**

The PCC thanked everybody for their input to the report which was now available to the public and advised that a small synopsis of the report called a 2 year on leaflet would be distributed across the county.

8. **Complaints Update (03:10:57 on recording)**

The Sub-Committee Chairman updated the panel with the result of an appeal to a complaint. The Sub-Committee had been satisfied that legislation and policy procedures had been followed. Some administration changes had been identified which were to be made to come in line with the host authority's procedures. These were attached as an appendix to the report.

Proposed by Cllr Jespersen, seconded by Cllr Trent.

Decision: That the proposed amendments to the Complaints Protocol, as set out in Appendix A. was approved.

The following recommendations would be dealt with at the next meeting:-

- a) Appoint five panel members to sit on the Complaints Sub-Committee
- b) Appoint a Chair and Vice Chair for the Complaints Sub-Committee

9. **Forward Workplan**

Members noted the Forward Workplan.

10. **Urgent items**

There were no urgent items.

11. **Exempt Business**

There was no exempt business.

Appendix

Duration of meeting: 10.00 am - 1.21 pm

Chairman

.....

This page is intentionally left blank

PCC Question and Answers

Actions:

PCC to report back on the force's Gold Group findings on 101 and emergency response.

Chair – I am happy to report that the Force has now responded to my Challenge on emergency response times. My team and I are quite pleased with the outcome here, as this represents a good example of the benefit of raising a formal challenge with the Force – as our enquiry pointed out a deficit with the way the data are reported, and Dorset Police has now taken advantage of understanding best practice from other Forces and has amended its processes accordingly.

In summary, like other Forces, Dorset has given itself a target of responding to Grade 1 - the highest priority - emergency calls for service within 20 minutes. This data was previously presented as measured from the time of the call being answered, to the time of the officer arriving on scene. Some forces measured this data similarly, whereas others started from the point that officers were dispatched, meaning that comparisons were difficult.

Dorset has now changed its process, and measures both answer time, as described, and response time – the time from the point of dispatch to the point of arrival. By clearly measuring both times, opportunities to examine both control room performance and local policing response can be taken.

The work has also considered a wide range of other factors, which I won't get into here – including resources, systems, infrastructure, and the relative use of different contact channels – and ultimately has resulted in a new performance measure being adopted. This is an ambitious, but achievable, call answering to dispatch target time of 5 minutes, and a dispatch to arrival target time of 15 minutes, meaning an overall response within 20 minutes.

The new target will be monitored through the Strategic Performance Board which is attended by my Chief Executive. A range of improvement to the call handling process have resulted in a speedier process there, and the latest stats are that 81% of grade 1 emergency calls are dispatched within 5 minutes, and that officers arrive at 77% of such calls within 15 minutes, which is also an improvement on the previous position.

PCC to provide an update on Operation Soteria Bluestone at the next meeting.

Thank you this is a timely question, given the announcement yesterday by Government, that Operation Soteria will be extended to all police forces in England and Wales, following a successful pilot in 19 forces, including Dorset.

Operation Soteria, previously known as Project Bluestone, was launched as a response to the government End-to-End Rape Review, and the Home Office pledge to increase the number of rape cases making it to court within this Parliamentary term.

Launching in June 2021, Dorset came onboard as a Soteria pilot force around one year later, building on the initial work by A&S under the Project Bluestone banner and the input of the four pathfinder forces – the Met, Durham, West Mids and South Wales.

Soteria is a police-academic collaboration, aiming to combine a strong police practitioner knowledge base with a strong academic research foundation – with the aim of developing a new operating model for the investigation and prosecution of rape capable of national rollout.

The principles of Soteria are:

1. A suspect focused investigation, including disrupting and challenging repeat offenders
2. Using procedural justice to underpin victim engagement
3. Placing investigator knowledge, learning and wellbeing at the heart of improvement
4. Systematic use, analysis and exploitation of data

In a bit more detail then, the current position of this work is as follows:

Suspect focused investigation – without getting too academic, Chair, Soteria recognises the fundamental importance of understanding human psychology in achieving a successful court outcome. This includes better understanding how offenders select, groom and exploit their victims and identify their vulnerabilities; how they attempt to assure investigators and prosecutors, and exploit not only the preconceptions and ways of thinking of investigators, but also the realities and weaknesses of the Criminal Justice System to evade justice, enabling many to repeat and refine their behaviour time after time. A greater perpetrator focus, powered by this understanding and underpinning improved case building will be the key difference in achieving better outcomes, and emerging learning in this area is being shared with our investigators and programmed into national training.

Procedural justice – relates to the idea that fair processes, and people's perception of fairness, is strongly impacted by the quality of their experiences, and not only the final outcomes of these experiences. Psychology is also, therefore, very relevant when it comes to victim engagement and maximising victims' ability to cope and recover. The role of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors, which the Panel has heard about before, are critical to this, and we are ensuring this emerging learning is fed into our ISVAs and into Maple, Dorset Police's in-house domestic abuse advisor (DAA) provision.

Investigator knowledge and capability – is clearly critical in achieving successful outcomes. This is more than just formal learning programmes – which have already been informed by Soteria learning and are being trailed in pilot form – but includes core reflective practice at every stage of the investigation process, as a discipline and daily habit. This way of working has proven benefits for wellbeing too. The value of undertaking this reflective practise as a wider group including the other key players in the prosecution system is considered to be of significant benefit, and is also being advocated by Soteria.

Exploitation of data – policing recognises that it must invest more time and energy at a corporate and system level on data and analysis. This means using data in an intelligent and forensic way – to identify where the gaps, blockages and pinch points are; to analyse root causes; to take action on them in an evidence-based way and to evaluate the effect on the system of that action. Data is a critical asset. Soteria has now set out further opportunities for policing and our partners to make the most of the data we hold, to drive better outcomes.

Finally, Soteria is helping to better **understand and address police culture** and drive performance improvements to victims. Although police culture is often seen as a monolith, the reality is that there are often three separate subcultures at play within Forces:

1. Culture 1 consists of individuals who are not yet bought into VAWG being a priority. They must actively be engaged, informed, and ultimately changed.
2. Culture 2 are change agents who are actively involved and supportive of driving policing improvements in VAWG. They must be recognised and rewarded.
3. Culture 3 are those people who are new to policing, and who may not yet have a clear or informed view. They are our future and we must bring them into culture 2, not culture 1.

Overall, Operation Soteria is offering policing an opportunity to not be defensive about identifying and addressing opportunities for improvement, to recognise the benefit of working closely with our prosecutors, DAA and ISVA colleagues, and to move past the past.

Chair, conviction rates for RASSO are nationally very low and no PCC or Chief Constable would say anything other than they wish to see many more perpetrators brought to justice. There are early signs that indicate some progress for Soteria forces (whether that be more timely charging decisions, or better file quality, alongside some slightly improved outcome rates), but we must recognise that this is a complex issue and RASSO cases can take many years to work the CJS, so it may be some time before we fully understand the benefits of this work and, of course, we will keep members informed.

In Quarter Questions

Question Lead – Mike

Sir Mark Rowley, the Met Commissioner, has stated that he will order his officers not to attend mental health incidents unless life is at threat. This panel has discussed with the PCC in the recent past the “what will no longer be done” question. Should the Chief Constable approach you stating that she is going to pursue the same operational policy as Sir Mark:

- What action will you take with other agencies in order to minimise the impact on the NHS.
- How have you ensured that the Chief Constable pursues the “Right Care, Right Person” approach?
- HMICFRS recently stated that our force has been asked to work with mental health services to improve the decision-making process for frontline officers dealing with mental health incidents. What oversight of the CC have you undertaken following this HMICFRS report.

If I may, Chair, I’ll take the first two points together, and deal with the third in a moment.

Recognising that this work is still subject to wider development, and that I will provide a fuller update to the Panel in due course – once the detail of the national rollout of the Right Care, Right Person approach is known – I’ll start by explaining the work underway in Dorset to identify, articulate and address the wicked issue of mental health demand.

Firstly, and this is important to state, policing is a 24/7 service and is often regarded as the service of both first and last resort. This means that police officers are often required to manage individuals experiencing a mental health crisis. Whilst officers will continue to be supportive, considerate, and compassionate in those circumstances – individuals will be served best by an expert response that police officers are simply not trained to deliver. Not only does this let down individuals experiencing a mental health crisis, their family and friends, but also, police officers and staff upon whom we place an unnecessary and unfair burden.

Policing has, for many years now, carried this additional burden and dealt with the inevitable failure that these intolerable situations bring. Deaths in police custody of those experiencing mental health crisis; individuals being taken to hospital or mental health facilities in the back of police cars in handcuffs as opposed to in ambulances with specialist staff; and individuals released from police custody only to find themselves back there hours later as they have been unable to access mental health services – all of these are disappointingly commonplace occurrences the length and breadth of the country.

And again, for many years now, policing has sought to pick up the pieces of a lack of specialist mental health services and put in place their own mental health triage approaches, often jointly staffed with health colleagues, and running at peak periods of demand, in peak areas. At some point a line in the sand must be drawn.

This is where Right Person, Right Care comes in. In 2019, Humberside Police convened a multi-agency task and finish group, attended by senior executive and managerial representatives from: local authorities, mental health providers, acute hospital trusts, ambulance trusts, clinical commissioning groups, and third sector charities and organisations – with the focus of their work being to reach an agreement between health and social care partners and the police that ensured that those with the right skills, training and experience responded to mental health related calls for service.

I'll dwell on this point for a moment if I may. The story around the Met's announcement focused on the headline, and not the considerable work that sat underneath that decision.

The principles of RCRP suggest that there must be improved multi-agency and partnership responses to mental health-related incidents, and that the public will receive an improved service, provided by those who are better able to access subject matter experts and appropriate specialist support. Whilst the reduction in the numbers of inappropriate attendance at mental health incidents by police will also be achieved, the critical deliverable is improved service delivery to the public.

As you may guess, I am a strong advocate of this model, as is the Chief Constable.

Although the Met has taken the decision to go early with RCRP, based on the work undertaken by Humberside, most Forces – including Dorset – are waiting for the national guidance for the implementation of RCRP to be developed by the NPCC and College and disseminated to Forces. As said Chair, I will ensure to update panel members further on this important initiative as it continues to develop.

The third point then, I believe, was in relation to the HMICFRS inspection visit to Dorset Police custody suites, published in May. The report highlighted that, and I quote in full:

“The force and mental health services don't have good enough arrangements to deal with people with mental ill health. Frontline officers called to incidents in public places can't always get the support they need from mental health professionals. This potentially leads to people being detained under section 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983, when other more appropriate solutions may have been available. Detainees wait too long for a Mental Health Act assessment in custody when required, with further waits before they are transferred to a mental health facility. There is very little information and no monitoring to show how well the needs of people with mental ill health are met, and little joint work to try to improve outcomes for them.”

You will note that HMICFRS are making the same argument that I have just articulated. Their recommendation was that – again I quote:

“The force should work with mental health services to make sure people with mental ill health are dealt with appropriately and their needs met.”

This element will be addressed by RCRP. There were other elements, relating to data collation and care provided within the custody setting and, like other HMICFRS recommendations, my team formally raise these with the Force and seek a formal response, which I then may need to discuss further with the Chief Constable. This response is currently in the process of being drafted, and in the interim my team has also discussed this report at the regular meeting of my Independent Custody Visitor's scheme, and their views have been fed back to the Force custody Inspectors.

Question Lead – Priority Two (Sherry)

Last month a number of Dorset Police officers were sacked for sharing racist, sexist and homophobic messages on WhatsApp. In light of this case – how has the PCC held the Ch Cons to account for the delivery of the Police Race Action Plan and other relevant strategies and action plans. Moreover, what action has the PCC taken to remove the possibility of this high profile case happening in the future?

Let me start by saying that following the outcomes of the misconduct hearing my senior team and I have received a briefing on the details of this case, and I welcome the misconduct panel's decision. The sanctions that have been placed on the officers that have been found guilty of misconduct are appropriate in light of the evidence that was presented.

I also welcome the clear leadership shown by the Force in this matter and note that the apology made by the Deputy Chief Constable that the behaviour of these officers let the public of Dorset down.

Alongside the Force leadership, I remain committed to Dorset Police investigating any unethical or unacceptable behaviour within its ranks, and I continue to encourage members of the public to report any experiences of wrongdoing, or a falling in standards by officers to Dorset Police.

In terms of my own activity, as members will recognise this is largely managed through my scrutiny of Force governance and strategy. Dorset Police has a well-established governance framework, encompassing an examination of areas such as performance, legitimacy, disproportionality, and equality, diversity, and inclusion – which are attended by my Chief Executive or my Director of Operations.

My team identified opportunities for further improvements to be made in respect of Dorset Police's consideration of these important areas, and as a consequence I have raised these concerns to the Chief Constable and sought a remedy. My Chief Executive has worked closely with the Deputy Chief Constable to address the concerns and Dorset Police has tweaked its governance structure, and produced a Governance Handbook, something which did not previously exist.

I mention this process to demonstrate how my office and I add value and hold the Force to account for improving services.

In addition to this scrutiny as part of business as usual:

- I issued a PCC Challenge on vetting to seek reassurance that this was robust for both new recruits and for transferees. I was assured by the response provided by the Chief Constable, albeit we both agreed to remain vigilant.
- I advocated for sufficient monitoring of Force ICT systems – both desktop and handheld devices – and I am pleased to report that the required software is now in place, is being fully utilised and that there are clear routes to follow up any resulting intelligence.
- I have also recently agreed to enhance the role my team and I play in scrutinising the use of police powers within Dorset, and as a next step I will be further considering opportunities to enhance the role we play in the complaints system. This includes the review and appeal function, dip-sampling of complaints, and liaison with the IOPC.

Finally, as it happens, I asked the Dorset Police Head of Professional Standards whether we could prevent such cases arising in the future. He was honest and said that is an outcome that no one can promise. Whilst the Chief Constable and I will do everything we can to minimise the opportunity of similar cases arising in the future – that fact remains that they will, in every Force, in every public body, in every organisation and institution, because human beings are flawed and because we all have biases and prejudices.

Question Lead – Priority One (Pete)

Dorset has been chosen as an area for a pilot scheme for tackling anti-social behaviour named the "immediate justice" scheme. Can the PCC please provide a succinct outline of this pilot, the duration and what involvement his office will have. The scheme is also aiming to give victims of anti-social behaviour from the local community a say in offenders' punishments – how will this be moderated?

I will try and be succinct Chair. Government published its ASB Action Plan in March. Launching the strategy, the Prime Minister said that he was determined to restore the public's confidence that those responsible will be quickly and visibly punished.

Which is where Immediate Justice could come in.

Immediate Justice is a programme aimed at delivering swift and visible punishment for ASB, diverting people away from the criminal justice system, and making sure offenders undertake practical, reparative activity to make good the loss or damage sustained by victims.

It is very similar to the existing community payback scheme - under this initiative, offenders, will be made to work under supervision, maybe to pick up litter, remove graffiti or tidy parks or other communal spaces as punishment for their actions, and victims of ASB from the local community will be given a say in those punishments.

I'll say a bit more here as it was asked. The practice of restorative justice is well established, both in Dorset through our commissioned provider, and nationally. As a result, there are clear process and guidelines about what constitutes appropriate reparative behaviour, and those are discussed with both offenders and victims as part of RJ schemes. With regards to IJ, the OPCC will be engaging with victims about the types of reparative activity that will be proposed – this detail is not yet available – but will likely fall into the types of activity I have highlighted.

Back to the detail of the IJ initiative, the Govt ambition is for the reparative actions to start 48 hours after an offence has been confirmed and notified to the IJ scheme.

This will be based on the existing powers that police have to issue out of court disposals with conditions to undertake reparative action, and the expectation is for officers to continue to use their discretion and national guidance to decide which offences were appropriate for this disposal and the conditions that should be applied.

16 trailblazer areas were announced at the same time of the strategy – some focusing on Immediate Justice, some benefiting from additional funding to surge the policing response in hotspot areas, and some having both.

There was no prior notice that Dorset would be chosen, but we are one of the ten IJ areas, and are expecting to receive around £1m to deliver this initiative, this year. The Govt intention is to roll-out IJ and hotspot policing to all force areas from next year, so we have an advantage in being a trailblazer area.

No10 has asked that trailblazer areas are up and running, to some extent, this month, and that they are fully operational by October. This is a very ambitious timescale, which has been somewhat hindered by the fact that HO and DLUHC officials are currently writing the detail of the initiative as we speak, and so the development is somewhat complex.

Overall, my position is that this is not something that we would necessarily have chosen to spend a £1m on given the other priorities that exist, but we will nevertheless maximise the use of the central funds to enhance our local services and improve public confidence and assurance.

Question Lead – Priority Three (Patrick)

The Home Office is conducting an internal investigation to examine the circumstances surrounding the murder of Tom Roberts in Bournemouth by an asylum seeker. What action has the PCC taken to lobby for this report to be issued in order that Dorset can take forward lessons identified to keep people safe?

Appreciating that we have had several personnel changes since our last meeting Chair, returning members will recall the statement I made at the beginning of our meeting in February.

I wrote to the Home Secretary at the end of March, highlighting that the murder of Tom Roberts created not just local but also national press and political interest – and specifically that I was seeking her public assurance about this matter specifically, and about the vetting of the individuals expected to be housed in the Portland Port asylum ferry.

A fortnight later, in April, I repeated my concerns to the Policing Minister – copying the Home Secretary, our two local Parliamentarians, the Dorset Council Leader and the Chief Constable into my letter. I also wrote to the Dorset Coroner's office in response to their concerns, highlighting the actions I had taken, and encouraging them to also lobby the Home Office in the same manner.

I am disappointed to report that my letters remained unanswered, and so I took the opportunity of being in a meeting with the Policing Minister to raise my concerns in person, and follow-up by private email.

I have now had an answer back from the Home Office, relating to the vetting of the accommodation vessel inhabitants with which I am content, but I yet to hear back specifically on this matter.

Question Lead – Priority Six (Mike)

With the imminent berthing of the ship in Portland, what action has the PCC taken in order to secure additional funding to cover the potential upswing in policing demand and how will this funding be utilised? How has the PCC engaged with Local Authorities over provision of assurance?

Chair, I fear that were I to give a full readout of the actions I had undertaken to secure appropriate levels of funding to cover the potential demand brought about by the imminent arrival of the asylum accommodation vessel that would, not only, take up the rest of our allotted time here today, but also, the rest of the working day itself.

I will therefore summarise as follows. In the first instance the Chief Constable and I worked together to identify the expected likely costs that might fall to Dorset Police – this would not only encompass the additional local policing requirement, but also the planning and partnership engagement processes needed to facilitate the success of this initiative, and the intelligence, community cohesion, reassurance, and wider communication needs. The Chief and I then submitted these indicative costs to the HO for their consideration.

I would characterise the HO response as lethargic, and with the community rightly clamouring for information I turned the screws and over a period of a few weeks wrote to the Home Secretary, Policing Minister, Immigration Minister, and various HO officials on this matter. My team and I also have also had several meetings with HO officials, and I have had the opportunity to lobby Ministers directly through my usual engagement with them.

Long story short Chair, the current position is that the HO has finally agreed to provide an initial level of funding that matches our original ask, agreed to fund the costs of any requests for mutual aid that Dorset Police initiates in support of policing the accommodation vessel, and agreed to consider requests for further funding should the vessel stay for longer than the year for which the initial funding has been provided.

As I am sure both members and the public will be interested in the relevant sums, which are:

- Under some duress, the Home Office has agreed to increase its initial funding offer to support the community policing of the accommodation vessel from £375k to £520k, which is in line with my minimum request.
- The Home Office has also agreed to reimburse Dorset Police for any mutual aid costs, that it is liable for, in support of the policing of the accommodation vessel.

Both of these are limited to an initial period of 12 months, although the Home Office has stated that should funding be required beyond this period, for example should the vessel stay longer, this would be discussed and considered.

In addition to this, the Home Office has recognised that there may be new demands on police capability and capacity deriving from accommodation vessel, and that funding may be required to cover this additionality. The option therefore remains open that the Chief Constable and I will issue a further bid to the Home Office, should further costs be identified.

This is an incredibly complex challenging issue, and my team and I continue to work closely with colleagues in policing, local authorities, and health, to ensure that both the totality of the funding allocation to Dorset, and the individual funding allocations to each agency, are appropriate. I appreciate that the community have also been left in the dark as we have tried to extract information from the Home Office.

For the moment though, in relation to the funding for policing, I am content that my initial concerns have been addressed, but I expect that a further bid will be required in due course.

Quarterly Report

Question Lead – Priority One

Data from the Home Office has revealed the low number of crimes reported to Dorset Police between September 2021 and September 2022 which resulted in a prosecution. It is acknowledged that there is a need to improve the number of crimes where an offender is identified and held to account by the criminal justice system. How is the PCC holding the CC to account for the delivery of this improvement?

Chair, the issue of reducing positive outcomes rates is one which policing as a whole has been grappling with for some time now. Broadly speaking we are a safe county, the sixth safest in fact as I am sure members know, however with regards to positive outcomes rates – our performance is average.

As a result of this the Force has improved its positive outcomes rate as a key performance outcome this year, and it is crime outcome performance is routinely scrutinised at the Performance Board, which is attended by my Chief Executive.

First, a brief context for the benefit of new members. There are currently 22 possible outcomes for crimes, as listed in the Home Office crime outcomes framework.

Some of these are considered positive in the sense that there is a tangible outcome that offers justice for the victim. For example:

- Outcome 1 – charge / summons, where a person is charged or summonsed to appear at court, or
- Outcome 2 – caution, where a person receives a formal police caution, and
- There are also a range of outcomes relating to warnings (e.g. for cannabis possession), for community resolutions (which might include the use of restorative justice), or penalty notices for disorder (fines, in other words).

Then there are a number of outcomes where formal action was not taken, perhaps because the suspect or victim or key witness died or was too ill (Outcome 5, 12 or 13), because the CPS decided the case was not in the public interest to pursue (Outcome 9).

Finally, there is a range of outcomes where there are evidential difficulties such as a suspect not being identified (Outcome 18), or a suspect being identified but there being insufficient evidence to progress (Outcome 15), or suspect being identified but the victim not supporting further action (Outcome 16). These may be regarded as more negative outcomes.

Policing, therefore, makes an assessment of positive outcome rates, and actively tries to increase this, in order to bring more offenders to justice. Over the past year, Dorset Police's positive outcome rate has been around 11%, with the upper quartile for the higher performing Forces starting just over 13%. This places Dorset at 25th out of 43 forces, which is an unverified position pending the release of the national statistics.

My Chief Executive attends the Force's monthly strategy performance board, where these data are considered in detail, this is the first line holding to account mechanism, and any performance exceptions are then highlighted to me for discussion with the Chief Constable.

I am aware of the improvement work the Force is progressing in the space – covering both improving investigation standards including timeliness, workload checks, outstanding crimes, outstanding suspects, and arrest rates as well as a specific focus on driving up positive outcome rates on specific crime types, in specific locations and at specific times.

I am also aware of the work being undertaken by the Make the Difference team, a bespoke performance improvement team within Dorset Police which undertakes a deep dive into specific areas or issues to identify opportunities for continual improvement and marginal gains in police performance.

This includes an examination of the better performers, and how their use of arrests and community resolutions affects their positive outcomes rates, given the complexity I outlined earlier. As a result of this deep dive, Dorset Police is targeting maintaining its already high level of crime recording and data integrity, with improving its overall positive outcome rate from 11% to 13% in the first instance. There are also several thresholds within this for improving the positive outcome rate for specific crime types, but I will not go into that level of detail here.

Sufficient, Chair, I hope to say that it is an area of performance that both the Chief Constable and I would like to improve. I am aware of the improvement plan in place, my Chief Executive will continue to update me on delivery through our usual methods of scrutiny, and I will continue to raise any performance exceptions to the Chief Constable as needed.

Priority Two - Make Policing More Visible and Connected

- The percentage of people who feel Dorset Police do a good job in their area is at 66%. What action has the PCC placed on the Ch Con to improve this statistic noting that the target is 80%? (it is better than the last Quarter, which was at 64%)?

That is a good spot, and it is an area that the Performance Board took a deep dive into in May of this year as we were one year into new arrangements.

In May 2022, the long running Community Safety Survey, for which this statistic is taken, moved to a new provider, SMSR, who already worked with several police forces, local authorities, and national charities. For the benefit of new member, this survey is conducted over the phone, with the provider randomly contacting individuals until 1200 responses are gained each year.

There were some minor methodological changes to the way the survey was collated in 2022/23, and some further work was undertaken to ensure that data from 22/23 are comparable to the previous years' results, but this is not something that I am overly concerned with at this stage – as the data, as stated, reflect an improving performance position.

Longer standing members might recall that the data were higher during the Covid period, so 2020/21 and 2021/22, as the percentage of the public who felt Dorset Police was doing a good job increased considerably, from a five-year average of 61% pre-Covid, to an average of 77% during the Covid period.

The position of increased confidence, reassurance, and satisfaction in the police during the Covid period is also reflected in other measures from the same Community Safety Survey. If we discount the data during this period then, when public confidence was potentially artificially high, the percentage of people who think Dorset Police is doing a good job has risen from 61% pre-Covid, to 66% post-Covid.

Therefore, at this stage Chair, I am content that performance in this area is improving, and whilst the stated target of 80% reflects a historical high position, I am very mindful of the wider challenges facing UK policing and how these can affect local confidence and satisfaction rates here in Dorset. This is not to discount the figures, but to recognise the scale of the challenge and that both local and national confidence measures show a downwards trend over the past decade. With that in mind, my conversation with the Chief Constable about these measures is more nuanced, rather than simply seeking a short-term improvement.

Priority Four - Fight Rural Crime

- Following the Southwest PCCs lobbying government on penalties for fly-tipping offences can the PCC provide an update on the Minister's proposals?

The Dorset Rural Crime Reduction Board was launched early last year, and agreed a range of actions, one of which is to raise the profile of the impact of fly-tipping on landowners, the public, and the Dorset countryside and wildlife, and highlight the need for tougher consequences for offenders.

As noted, I have been working with PCC colleagues across the Southwest to target these issues at a regional level too. In January of this year, the five Southwest PCCs sent a letter to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs – Therese Coffey.

Our proposals included:

- To increase the maximum fixed penalty notices for small scale fly-tipping to £1000
- To change the maximum fine of £50,000 to become a minimum fine to be imposed on repeat, large scale offenders
- A greater use of powers to impound and destroy vehicles involved in fly-tipping
- To introduce a national waste crime offenders list for individuals and companies
- To support and fund the creation of a national analysis resource to enable the police to effectively collect and analyse data on fly-tipping in rural areas and to tackle organised criminal gangs profiting from fly-tipping in the countryside

Pleasingly, as part of the wider ASB measures, it has been announced that:

- The minimum fine for fly-tipping was being raised from £400 to £1000
- The maximum fine for those who litter, or graffiti will increase from £150 to £500
- The maximum fine those who breach their household waste duty of care will increase from £400 to £600

These changes will come into force on 31 July, and in addition to increasing the upper limit on fines, the government has launched a consultation on ringfencing the receipts from fixed penalty notices for litter and fly-tipping to fund local authorities' enforcement and clean-up activities, such as spending the money raised from fining criminals on further enforcement officers. This would see the fines go directly back into repairing the damage caused, or into enforcement efforts to prevent similar incidents from happening again.

Although the proposal to publish a list of national waste offenders has not been taken forward, government has outlined proposals to publish league tables for local authorities based on their fly-tipping performance. And, the proposals also set out that more support will be given to local authorities and policing to aid with removing vehicles, by removing the need to have the regulator present when a police officer seizes a vehicle unlawfully carrying waste.

FY 22/23 Q4 finance questions:

- The Q3 report highlighted that £0.5M overspend was predicted. Due to the actions of the Efficiency Board, this has now a favourable end of year outcome of £706K underspend. Can the OPCC please provide a succinct view on how this £1.2M turnaround was achieved and provide reassurance to the people of Dorset that public facing services have not been affected. In addition, how will the carry-forward requests be carefully managed in financial year 2023/24?

Several factors have contributed to the turnaround in the financial position. The over achievement of the uplift target generated additional grant of £160,000 as a result of recruiting 8 additional officers over and above our uplift target. Significant focus has been placed on financial management and awareness across the force, working with budget holders to drive out efficiencies, with the creation of an Efficiency Board to oversee reductions in spend required for the 23/24 budget. This has led to a much greater awareness across the Force of the financial challenges which has, for example, led to a slowing down of staff recruitment. This was often a conscious decision in order to provide greater challenge, through a vacancy review panel, to whether the role to be recruited was in a key area or whether the role could be filled in a different way. There have also been instances of being unable to recruit when roles were advertised due to a slower employment market. This has not impacted on front line service delivery.

The Efficiency Board also oversaw challenges to reduce IT Licence Fees by scrutinising the numbers of devices allocated to individuals and recalling items not being utilised, for example recalling desktop machines following the issuing of laptops during the pandemic. We also started to see the result of the change in culture of the greater financial awareness; budget holders were more questioning of whether spend was required, could it be delayed or could it be done differently? The ongoing challenge of managing overtime also started to produce results – and even though overtime was still overspent overall, the BCP area managed to come in under budget for the first time.

In terms of the carry forward requests, they have been agreed to be transferred to the Budget Management Reserve but will require further authorisation to come out of the reserve to make sure that the request is still the right priority for the funding. We know that 2023/24 will be a challenging year financially therefore we need to be able to respond to any changing priorities should they arise. This process will be overseen by the Resource Control Board, which is a joint Force / OPCC board.

- Every year there is inordinate slippage in the Capital programme, primarily in ICT. When will the PCC take a deep dive into this area in order to grip the situation?

Slippage is a common feature of most capital programmes, which typically contain projects and programmes that cover multiple years and don't neatly fit into financial years. Previously we've had issues with the vehicle replacement programme and the work we've done through the Capital Strategy Group has resulted in this being much more accurately forecasted, despite really difficult circumstances.

The Capital Strategy Group had a robust discussion about this year's level of slippage, both for Estates and ICT, at their meeting in April. In particular whilst there are some projects which at Q3 were reasonably expected to complete by 31 March but were then unavoidably delayed, there were some areas where delays could have been highlighted earlier. Our contributions to national IT projects such as Emergency Services Network also fall within this area. The accuracy of forecasts will remain a focus of the Capital Strategy Group as we go through the year.

- The PCC now holds £1.7M in reserves. What is deemed a suitable threshold for reserves in this area and what plans are in place to utilise some of this taxpayer's funds in the next financial year?

There are no set thresholds for earmarked reserves, it is down to local circumstances and judgements. The funds are held in 3 reserves; the Legal Reserve is for legal support for officers under specific circumstances where the OPCC has a duty to provide support. This is now approaching the maximum level that we feel we need but there are currently no cases requiring such support. The second reserve is from the OPCC office costs and would be used for additional pieces of work, specialist skills or pump priming new projects.

The main reserve is the Police and Crime Plan reserve and now holds a balance of just over £1m. The main priority for this reserve will be to supplement the Serious Violence Duty funding and the creation of a Violence Reduction Unit. We have been working with partners to understand their plans to spend the Serious Violence Duty funding so that we can look at how to fill in any gaps. Once we have this detail we can be clearer on timescales for delivery.

NTE Questions:

- The PCC is to be congratulated on obtaining funding for additional CCTV cameras in NTE “hotspots”. How is the funding of the additional monitoring staff managed and is there any data to prove that these cameras drive down violence and criminality? Or is their prime benefit providing evidence for successful prosecution of perpetrators?

Chair, CCTV cameras are proven to prevent crime, aid with the detection of offences and also assist with public order scenarios. They are a recognised and evidence-based tactic that is endorsed by the College of Policing.

The cameras in question have received funding through separate rounds of the Government’s Safer Streets Fund. In 2021 a successful bid enabled BCP Council to install CCTV cameras in eight areas which have been directly affected by crime including Christchurch Road in Boscombe, Christchurch Road in Pokesdown and Southbourne Grove. In 2021 and 2022 we facilitated five new cameras at the Marsh; five new cameras on the Rodwell Trail; and an additional 10 cameras in Weymouth Town Centre. This funding also provided for additional daytime CCTV monitoring officers and an expansion of the Dorset CCTV Control Room. By using a centralised CCTV Control Room, it has been possible to expand CCTV provision throughout the county without incurring huge additional staffing costs.

Of course, while the cameras will have already been used to assist with prosecutions and also to assist with live incidents, it is notoriously difficult to prove the prevention of crimes – not least to isolate the effect of individual tactics, bearing in mind the many preventative measures being undertaken simultaneously within the NTE, as outlined in the paper.

I am confident that the addition of these cameras not only helps to keep people safer in town centres, but also helps to make people feel safer too.

- What action is taken when premises are linked to the illegal supply of alcohol, nitrous oxide and vapes (to young people)?

The simple answer is that any such premises risk losing their licence, facing a fine, or even facing a prison sentence. I certainly would wish for extremely robust monitoring and enforcement action in any such instances.

Of course, it’s important to stress that it is the local authority Trading Standards that enforces legislation which prohibits the supply of most age restricted goods. Trading Standards are responsible for a programme of education to businesses, alongside test purchase exercises for the substances that you have mentioned. Indeed, last year you may recall that Trading Standards discovered that a large number of premises in Dorset were selling e-cigarettes and vaping products to children without adequately checking ID.

Trading Standards works with a wide array of partners including Licensing and Community Safety teams, Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs and Dorset Police.

Alongside this activity, the Dorset Police officers will also seize any contraband materials that are discovered during the course of their duties, or as a consequence of intelligence received. You will, I am sure have read about occasions in which neighbourhood officers, alongside licensing and trading standards colleagues, have confiscated vapes and nitrous oxide canisters.

We will not tolerate the illegal use or sale of controlled substances and you’ll know, Chair, that I am particularly worried about the high harm that such substances can cause young people.

This page is intentionally left blank



Page 27

Crime & ASB	Burglary	Fraud & Cyber	Road Safety	Young People	Pet Theft
Green	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green

- PCC funding sees a reported reduction in ASB of 80% in one of the successful areas.
- Exploratory work undertaken with businesses to reduce retail and business burglaries.

Uplift and Visibility	Connectivity and Engagement	Customer Service
Green	Yellow	Green

- Lyme Regis front counter re-opened to the public for enquiries and crime reporting.
- New Force website kept under scrutiny to ensure best use of new platform.

Addiction	Violence Reduction	VAWG	DA & Stalking	Child Abuse	Modern Slavery
Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green

- Agreement sought from partners for the co-design of domestic abuse services.
- Drug and alcohol awareness and support programme commissioned by the PCC.

Funding	Efficiency	Evidence Based Policing	Philosophy & Co-operation
Yellow	Green	Green	Green

- Recruitment of Fundraising Manager to proactively explore new funding opportunities.
- De-alignment of the Alliance Firearms Licensing Department to create efficiencies.

Philosophy	CJS & RJ	Vulnerability	Hate Crime	Business & Retail Crime
Green	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Yellow

- Dorset announced as a 'trailblazer' area for the Immediate Justice Scheme.
- Police attendance at the Dorset Chambers Business Expo to engage with businesses.

Rural Resources	Country Watch	Fly-tipping	Wildlife Crime
Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow

- Creation of the South West Partnership Against Rural Crime (SWPARC).
- Successful lobbying resulted in fly-tipping sanctions being increased.

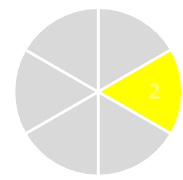
RAG Status	
This Period	Last Period



In the Spotlight	Measures of Success	Target	Current	Additional Key Indicators		Q4	Q1
<p>“I want to send my thanks to every member of our Community Speed Watch teams in Dorset for the vital work they are doing to help combat dangerous driving on our roads. Road safety is for everyone, and they contribute to reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured on our roads.”</p> <p>PCC, 19 June 2023</p>	Total Crime (from 2019 baseline)	↓	↓ -2%	Non-dwelling burglary 23/24 (YTD)	+4.6% (+7)	▲	▲
				Dwelling burglary 23/24 (YTD)	+10% (+24)	▲	▲
	Total ASB incidents (from 2019 baseline)	↓	↓ -26%	Killed or Seriously Injured (rolling)	-12.1%	▼	▼
				ASB YTD	-19% (-998)	▼	▼
	Public Opinion	↑	TBC	% people feeling safe in Dorset	91%	-	-
				Commissioning: Crime Prevention 23/24	£594k	▲	▲

Theme	RAG Q4	RAG Q1	Detail	Theme	RAG Q4	RAG Q1	Detail
Road Safety	▲	▲	<p>OPCC continued to <u>work with</u> Dorset Road Safe to support the Community Speed Watch (CSW) Teams. Direct engagement with CSWs is now included in officer tasking, which has been well received by CSWs. 22/23 figures show that only 2.4% of cars recorded by CSW were speeding.</p> <p>The PCC supported the <u>UN Road Safety Week</u> – this reflected the ambitious target of halving deaths and injuries by 2030.</p>	<p>Crime and ASB</p> <p>Fraud & Cyber Crime</p>	▲	▲	<p>Following receipt of funding through the PCC's Op Relentless Community fund, Littlemoor residents reported an 80% drop in ASB, with local media reporting that the area was “winning battle against anti-social behaviour”.</p> <p>The PCC welcomed the Government National Fraud Strategy, which <u>sets out</u> a fundamental shift in the Government’s approach to tackling fraud and to stop fraud at source, pursuing those responsible.</p>
Burglary	▲	▲	<p>The PCC continues to work with businesses to reduce business burglaries. This includes exploring opportunities with the UKPAC <u>initiative</u> that may assist business and BIDs to target harden and reduce acquisitive crime.</p>	Support Young People	▲	▲	<p>The OPCC commenced a consultation exercise with the Volunteer Police Cadets to better understand young people's experience and engagement with policing. The findings will be used in the development of key workstreams, such as the PCC’s Fix The Future initiatives.</p>

RAG Status	
This Period	Last Period



In the Spotlight	Measures of Success	Target	Current	Additional Key Indicators		Q4	Q1
<p>“The people told me they want to see more visible and connected policing, which is why I made it a priority of my Police and Crime Plan. I will continue to work alongside the Chief Constable to ensure that the public ‘see and feel’ the difference in policing over the coming weeks, months, and years.”</p> <p>PCC, 16 June 2023</p>	Number of full-time equivalent police officers	↑	↑ 1,401.7	Victim Satisfaction (Whole Experience)	65.5%		-
				Victim Satisfaction (Actions Taken)	61.1%		-
	Percentage of People who feel Dorset Police do a good job in their area	↑ 80%	↑ 70%	Victim Satisfaction (Kept Informed)	63.3%		-
				Average 101 answer time	12.3 mins		∨
	Percentage of 999 calls answered within 10 seconds	↑ 90%	↑ 86.3%	Complaints received by Dorset Police (Q1)	357		∧
				Complaint Reviews received by OPCC (Q1)	23		∧

Theme	RAG Q4	RAG Q1	Detail
Uplift and Visibility			The recent intake of trainee officers was the largest in Dorset since the creation of Police and Crime Commissioners back in 2012. It represents an increase of 13.7 per cent from the lowest point in 2019 going from 1,267 officers to 1,441 officers . The PCC issued a statement confirming the Force’s success in not only meeting, but surpassing, the recruitment target, and also a blog outlining the impact that this recruitment will have.
Engagement and Connectivity			Following the launch of the new Dorset Police Website (which is part of the national Single Online Home platform), the PCC is working with the Force to ensure that the changes are well communicated and that the site is kept under close review. Early data indicates that the Force is receiving higher levels of online public contact than ever before, suggesting that the public are making good use of the new technology.
Customer Service			The Lyme Regis front counter pilot commenced in May 2023, seeing the station enquiry office staffed for set periods. This move enables residents and visitors to report crime and incidents in person, as well as access support. This followed the re-opening of Blandford front counter in the previous quarter. As well as offering more availability to attend police stations, the Force is bringing local police into communities at Community Contact Points . This is a way for members of the public to meet their local officers, report crime and incidents, or discuss issues that are important to them with a police officer, face-to-face.

RAG Status	
This Period	Last Period



In the Spotlight	Measures of Success	Target	Current	Additional Key Indicators		Q4	Q1
<p>“Organised Crime Groups involved in cannabis cultivation do not just bring with them the threat of violence and ASB to a community, [but also] the misery of modern slavery – forcing people to work for them, often in inhumane conditions... by taking advantage of their vulnerable status.”</p> <p>PCC, 9 June 2023</p>	Most Serious Violence (from 2019 baseline)	↓	↓ -6.1%	Domestic Abuse Crimes	-5% (+45)		∨
				Domestic Abuse Incidents	+6.6% (+176)		∧
	Domestic Abuse Crime and Incident Reports	↑	↑	Violence Against the Person	+1.2% (+63)		-
				Domestic Violence, Sexual Harm and Stalking Prevention Orders 23/24	41		∧
	Effectiveness assessment by HMICFRS	ADQ.	ADQ.	Commissioning: Reducing Reoffending 23/24	£612k		∨

Theme	RAG Q4	RAG Q1	Detail	Theme	RAG Q4	RAG Q1	Detail
Addiction and Substance Misuse			<p>The PCC approved funding for a drug and alcohol awareness and support programme to be developed and piloted with schools. The Alcohol Education Trust will commence this work in Q2 - the OPCC will undertake a detailed evaluation of the effectiveness/impact of the programme.</p> <p>The PCC <u>updated</u> on the fifth phase of Operation Scorpion, the regional operation tackling drugs.</p>	Child Abuse			Victim Support is delivering a project to enable young people to identify cyber bullying and appropriate online relationships, and how to respond.
				Violence Against Women and Girls			
Violence Reduction			<p>The OPCC continues to work with partners in the delivery of the Serious Violence Duty. A partnership meeting will be held late September to update the PCC on the plans.</p> <p>The PCC supported Op Sceptre, the national operation to tackle knife crime, and <u>encouraged</u> members of the public to complete a Home Office consultation to ban certain types of machetes.</p>	Domestic Abuse & Stalking			<p>The OPCC sought support from partner agencies to co-design domestic abuse services and pathways in Dorset, as part of his work to commission a new Independent Domestic Abuse Advisor Service for Dorset.</p> <p>The PCC <u>supported</u> National Stalking Awareness Week, inviting the Wessex CPS Stalking Lead to discuss the subject.</p>

RAG Status	
This Period	Last Period



In the Spotlight	Measures of Success	Target	Current	Additional Key Indicators		Q4	Q1
<p>“Fly-tipping is a blight that causes a nuisance to residents, makes areas appear run down and creates potential health hazards and I am committed to working with partner agencies to find new ways to tackle this problem in Dorset.”</p> <p>PCC, 15 June 2023</p>	Total Rural Crime (compared to 2019 baseline – YTD)	↓	↓ -67%	Crimes ‘Flagged’ as Rural	-41% (-21)		V
	Rural Resources	↑	↑	Engagement events in County LPA (Q1)	+131% (37)		-
	Public Opinion	↑	↑ 65.86%				

Page	Theme	RAG Q4	RAG Q1	Detail	Theme	RAG Q4	RAG Q1	Detail
13	Rural Resources			<p>The PCC welcomed confirmation that the Force now has 14 trained heritage crime officers. The officers will help with prevention and enforcement, as well as improving the recording and monitoring of heritage crime.</p> <p>The PCC <u>attended</u> the SW Regional Rural Crime Conference – with forces working closely together to make the most of their rural crime resources.</p>	Country Watch			<p>The PCC updated partners on the creation of a Southwest Partnership Against Rural Crime (SWPARC). Subsequently, it was agreed to change of name of the Rural Crime Reduction Board to the Dorset Partnership Against Rural Crime (PARC).</p> <p>The PCC also <u>promoted</u> the SW Rural Crime Survey to ensure that the views of rural communities are captured and understood.</p>
	Fly-Tipping			<p><u>Successful lobbying</u> by the PCC and his regional counterparts – alongside the National Rural Crime Network – resulted in increased sanctions to help tackle fly-tipping. The Prime Minister announced tougher penalties would be available, with the minimum fine increasing from £400 to £1,000.</p>	Wildlife Crime			<p>Filming and interviewing took place with famers to produce a video about the true impact of poaching. The film will highlight at the economic cost of damaged crops and property, livestock loss, the threat of harm to farmers, and the emotional impact.</p>

RAG Status	
This Period	Last Period



In the Spotlight	Measures of Success	Target	Current	Additional Key Indicators		Q4	Q1
<p>“Violence against shopworkers is a real concern, it is utterly despicable and unacceptable - after all, everyone has the right to feel safe at work. That’s why I am proud to say that I am a #ShopKind Champion and take a supportive role in promoting the campaign.”</p> <p>PCC, 14 April 2023</p>	Number of victims supported by OPCC commissioned services	↑	↑	Victim Support – Cases Created (Q1)	3387	Green	^
				Victims’ Bureau – Contact (Q1)	5038	Green	V
	Victim Satisfaction	↑	-- 65%	Recorded Hate Crime (YTD)	-5.8% (-14)	Yellow	V
				Recorded Hate Incidents (YTD)	-7.7% (-6)	Red	V
	Legitimacy Assessment by HMICFRS	ADQ.	ADQ.	Business Crime (YTD)	+10.1% (+333)	Red	^
				Commissioning: Victim Services 23/24	£2m	Green	^

Theme	RAG Q4	RAG Q1	Detail	Theme	RAG Q4	RAG Q1	Detail
Business and Retail Crime	Yellow	Yellow	The PCC <u>outlined</u> his role as a #ShopKind and also funded a stand for Dorset Police to attend the “ Dorset Chambers Business Expo ”. The Force engaged with over 150 businesses, offering advice and support.	Hate Crime	Green	Green	Through the Force Equality Diversity and Inclusivity Board, the OPCC has scrutinised the Force’s progress against the Police Race Action Plan, which includes developing a more effective response to hate crime.
Criminal Justice Service and Restorative Justice	Yellow	Yellow	Dorset was announced as a ‘ <i>trailblazer</i> ’ area for Immediate Justice . This scheme will see perpetrators of ASB receive swift reparative action to fix the damage they have done, or otherwise give back to the community their actions have affected.	Vulnerability	Yellow	Yellow	PCC welcomed news of NHS England working with the ‘Armed Forces Employment Charity’ to provide a service to engage and support ex-military personnel in the criminal justice system.
				Victims and Community	Yellow	Green	Enhanced Video Contact pilot announced. This will see a dedicated team deal with primary contact with victims and statement taking remotely to reduce impact on frontline policing.
			The PCC <u>promoted</u> the Bournemouth Crown Court Open day to help bridge the gap between the criminal justice system and the community it serves.				

RAG Status	
This Period	Last Period



In the Spotlight	Measures of Success	Target	Current	Additional Key Indicators		Q4	Q1
<p>“[De-alignment of the Alliance Firearms Licensing Unit] will bring about greater local control and accountability, and more flexibility to deal with the needs of local communities. Both I and the Chief Constable believe [it] will result in an improved service to the Dorset public.”</p> <p>PCC, 6 June 2023</p>	Money secured from competitive national funds	↑	↑ £731k	Total Commissioning Spend by OPCC (2023/24)	£3.2m		^
	Budget Forecast	SEE FINANCE SLIDES	SEE FINANCE SLIDES	Innovation Bids Submitted (since 01/04)	2		-
				Small Grant Bids Awarded 2023/24	10		^
	Efficiency assessment by HMICFRS	ADQ.	ADQ.	Absence Rates for Officers (Q4)	2.69		^
				Absence Rates for Staff (Q4)	3.25		^

Theme	RAG Q4	RAG Q1	Detail	Theme	RAG Q4	RAG Q1	Detail
Funding			<p>The PCC lobbied government for additional funding to manage the policing requirements caused by the placement of the <u>Bibby Stockholm barge</u>. The PCC has been clear that the cost of policing the barge should not be met by Dorset council taxpayers.</p> <p>In accordance with his pledge to be transparent about funding decisions, the PCC distributed letters to residents informing them of how their <u>Council Tax contribution</u> to policing will be utilised.</p>	Efficiency			<p>The PCC, along with his counterpart in Devon & Cornwall and the respective Chief Constables, <u>made the decision</u> to de-align the Alliance Firearms Unit into separate units for each force area. Key considerations included the long-term impact of Covid-19 and the tragic events in Keyham, Devon.</p> <p>The <u>Innovation Board</u> approved funding for a pilot that will see the automatic transfer of Crimestoppers intel reports through to the police crime records system.</p>
Evidence Based Policing			<p>Following the increasing number of competitive bid processes being released by government, the OPCC appointed a ‘Fundraising Manager’. The role will work with partner agencies, sourcing the best available evidence, to bid for specific government funds.</p>	Philosophy and Co-Operation			<p>The PCC met with the Serious Violence Duty Specified Authorities for a formal update on the Dorset Serious Violence Strategy and to establish the plans for the funding. A further formal update is planned for September 2023.</p>

This page is intentionally left blank

RAG Status	
This Period	Last Period

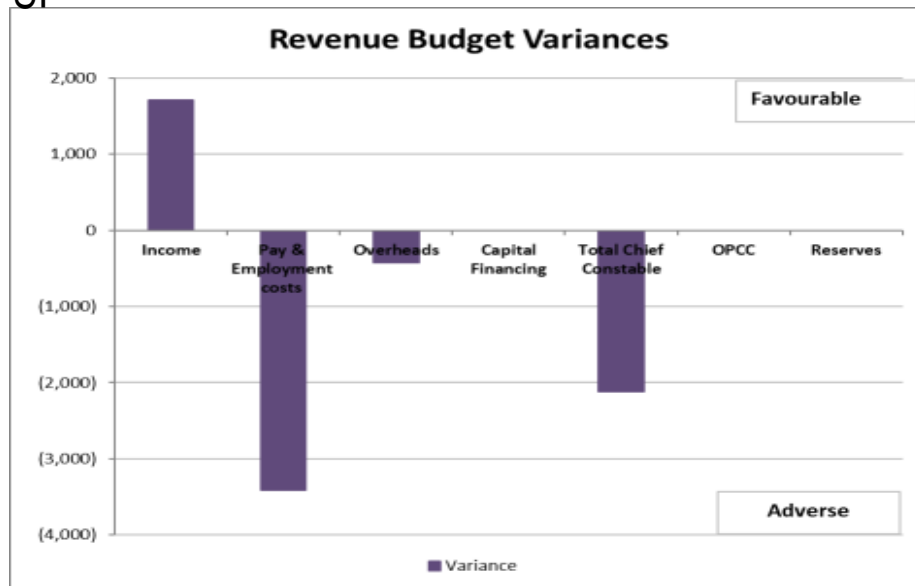


2023/24 QUARTER 1 FINANCIAL REPORT- OVERVIEW

The overall revenue spend is forecast to be £165.0m against a budget of £162.9m, an adverse variance of £2.1m or 1.3%, based on information up to 30 June 2023. This is before any account is taken of the pay award announced over the summer.

If the variance is still adverse at the year end this will reduce the General Fund Balance to £3.836m, equivalent to 2.36% of Net Revenue Expenditure. This would be below the minimum level of reserves therefore the Force is working to address the spend in order to bring the year end outturn back in line with the budget.

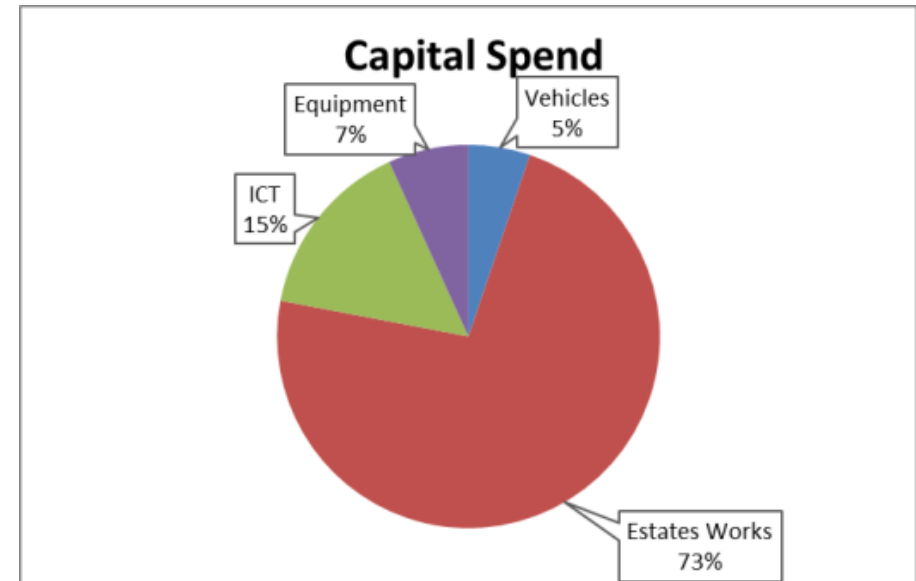
The graph below summarises the revenue variances for the year to 31 March 2024.



CAPITAL

The Capital Programme is currently predicting expenditure of £19.711m against a revised budget of £24.795m for the year. The variance of £5.084m is made up of slippage of £4.822m and forecast underspends of £0.262m. As a result borrowing is forecast to be £5.084m less than budgeted.

The graph below shows the current allocation of the forecast spend for 2023/24.



Further information on both the revenue budget, capital programme and reserves can be found on the following pages.

RAG Status	
This Period	Last Period



REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING

2023/24	Original Budget	Revised Budget	Actual to Date	Forecast Outturn	Variance fav / (adverse)	Ref	Revenue Commentary
Chief Constable	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's		
Income	(24,895)	(24,885)	(2,605)	(26,594)	1,709	R1	R1. Additional income from Uplift as a result of the planned recruitment of an extra 17 officers in excess of the uplift target, and additional interest receivable following increases in interest rates and more positive cashflow.
Pay & Employment costs	135,821	135,859	34,747	139,270	(3,411)	R2	R2. The additional costs of the extra 17 officers are forecast here, as well as the £1.2m savings built into the budget which have not yet been delivered. Overtime budgets are still under pressure but not as much as in previous years. Ill health retirements are forecast to be higher than budgeted based on Q1 numbers but this may reduce as we go through the year.
Overheads	44,738	44,859	9,528	45,281	(422)	R3	R3. The forecast overspend on overheads relates to higher than budgeted business rates and increased costs of equipment, body armour and pension administration fees. These are partially offset by savings in IT licences and network costs.
Capital Financing	4,649	4,649	73	4,649	0		
Total Chief Constable	160,312	160,482	41,743	162,606	(2,124)		
OPCC	2,968	3,054	395	3,054	0		
Total Net Revenue Expenditure	163,280	163,536	42,138	165,660	(2,124)		R4. The forecast variance of £2.124m is equivalent to 1.3% of the total net budget. If this position were to be the final outturn position this would reduce the General Reserves to 2.36%, below the minimum level of 3%. The Force are therefore working hard to address the forecast variance. The position is monitored closely by the Resource Control Board each month.
Reserves	(406)	(662)	(256)	(662)	0		
Net Budget	162,874	162,874	41,882	164,998	(2,124)	R4	

RAG Status	
This Period	Last Period

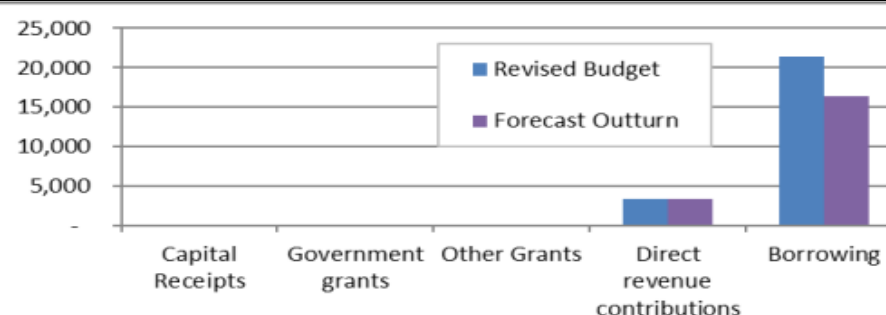


CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING

2023/24	Original Budget	Revised Budget	Actual to Date	Forecast Outturn	Variance Fav / (Adverse) £000's	Capital Programme Commentary
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	
Capital Investment						
Vehicles	924	1,121	(15)	1,026	95	<p>Most vehicle orders for 2023/24 have been placed and delivery slots confirmed by suppliers but are still subject to change. The placing of early bulk orders have achieved discounted rates resulting in a small underspend being forecast.</p> <p>The Estates forecast variance is primarily slippage relating to the demolition elements of the new HQ project which will now take place in 2024/25 (the build elements remain on schedule), the firing range refurbishment which has experienced design delays and is not due to start until January 2024 and other Extended Futures projects as a result of time and resource constraints.</p> <p>The ICT variance is also primarily slippage relating to PRISM projects such as SMART Storm, Contact Centre replacement and the regional Digital Asset Management System (DAMS) project, as well as national projects such as ESN. There are small underspends on ICT projects which have now completed and remaining costs are revenue.</p>
Estates Works	15,123	18,046	1,118	14,347	3,699	
ICT	3,537	4,763	377	2,998	1,765	
Equipment	637	1,365	47	1,340	25	
Slippage	(500)	(500)	0	0	(500)	
Unallocated	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Capital Programme	19,721	24,795	1,527	19,711	5,084	<p>The equipment variance relates to slippage in the taser replacement programme which is not forecast to be required this year.</p>

CAPITAL FINANCING

Sources of Finance					
Capital Receipts	-	-	-	-	0
Government grants	-	-	-	-	0
Other Grants	23	72	-	72	0
Direct revenue contributions	3,288	3,288	332	3,288	0
Borrowing	16,410	21,435	1,195	16,351	5,084
Total Capital Funding	19,721	24,795	1,527	19,711	5,084



RAG Status	
This Period	Last Period



USABLE RESERVES

2023/24	Opening Balance at 1/4/23	Budgeted transfer to/(from) reserves	Commitments to transfer to/(from) reserves	Actual Transfer to/(from) reserves	Forecast Closing Balance at 31/3/24
Reserve	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Budget Management Fund	1,616	(562)	(306)	(256)	1,054
Police and Crime Plan Reserve	1,028	0	0	0	1,028
OP Legal Reserve	220	0	0	0	220
OP Reserve	377	0	0	0	377
Regional Collaboration Reserve	34	0	0	0	34
Forensic Capability Reserve	256	0	0	0	256
Network Reserve	643	0	0	0	643
Workforce Change Reserve	549	(200)	(200)	0	349
Uplift Reserve	46	0	0	0	46
Learning & Development Reserve	375	0	0	0	375
PEQF Reserve	375	0	0	0	375
Total Earmarked Reserves	5,144	(762)	(506)	(256)	4,382
General Fund Balance	5,860	100	100	0	5,960
Total Revenue Reserves	11,004	(662)	(406)	(256)	10,342
Capital Receipts Reserve	379	0	3,033	0	3,412
Total Usable Reserves	11,383	(662)	2,627	(256)	13,754

Reserves Commentary

- The Budget Management Reserve holds the underspend from 22/23 of £706,000, the Innovation Fund Balance and the unspent carry forward requests which may be required in 2023/24. These will be transferred from the reserve as they are required.
- At this early stage of the year no other transfers have been made to or from earmarked reserves
- The General Fund Balance is budgeted to increase to £5.960m at 31 March 2024, equivalent to 3.66% of Net Revenue Expenditure. This would be above the minimum level of reserves, but below the maximum of 5%, however this does not factor in the current forecast position. If this variance is still present at the year end the General Fund Balance would be reduced to 2.36% and would need to be addressed as part of the budget for 2024/25
- The capital receipt from the sale of Bargates has now been received. A final check is being made to determine if any further costs of sale should be offset against this receipt. No commitments have yet been made on what these receipts should be used for.



DORSET POLICE & CRIME PANEL – 28 SEPTEMBER 2023

MAKE POLICING MORE VISIBLE AND CONNECTED

BY THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

PURPOSE

This paper provides an update on Priority Two within the Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) Police and Crime Plan – to Make Policing More Visible and Connected. It will detail progress to date and the actions undertaken by Dorset Police and the PCC to meet this priority. This paper also seeks to address the following seven Key Lines of Enquiry as provided by the Dorset Police and Crime Panel:

- I. The Police and Crime Plan sets out an objective to improve the communication with elected representatives across Dorset. What actions has the PCC taken to achieve this and what further improvement actions are intended, including with council ward members?*
- II. What assurance does the PCC have that each force area (e.g., Bournemouth South) has adequate neighbourhood policing team inspector coverage?*
- III. How does the PCC scrutinise and monitor the force's public contact handling and what metrics are used to define 'good service'? What is the average time taken to report a crime via single online home platform and via 101? What is the average time taken to get a response? What further improvement actions will the PCC be taking?*
- IV. How will the PCC improve and streamline online reporting via SOH [Single Online Home] so that it doesn't create a barrier to community reporting? What evidence is there to demonstrate that its introduction has encouraged more reporting of crime?*
- V. How does the PCC propose to drive improvements in the user experience of online crime reporting and reduce the time required to report (current average is 15-20 minutes)? [Observation - Allowing users to save basic profile information for re-use and streamlining the information captured would be a big help].*
- VI. It is recognised that neighbourhood policing teams can be moved to respond to service demands in other areas. How will the PCC hold the Chief Constable account in ensuring that the uplift in officers will maximise community / neighbourhood policing?*
- VII. Could the PCC give an overview of the Neighbourhood Engagement Commitments and give examples of how they are publicising public engagement and ensuring that communities know their police? Is it one set of overarching commitments or are they bespoke to the force areas? Does every Force area have a commitment in place? Where can members of the public view these commitments?*

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The second Priority within the PCC's 2021-29 Police and Crime Plan is to Make Policing More Visible and Connected. Members of the public regularly tell the PCC that they wish to see more officers out and about in their areas; that they want the police to be more accessible when they need to contact them; and that they desire

for the police to be better engaged with communities. Such feedback appears to be common across all police force areas and it is something that the PCC is determined to address in Dorset.

- 1.2. To clearly set out his ambitions for this Priority, the PCC has divided this section of his Police and Crime Plan into three key themes: Uplift & Visibility; Engagement & Connectivity; and Customer Service. Each theme is supported by numerous commitments, which are again informed by feedback provided by Dorset residents and service users.
- 1.3. It is recognised that, when discussing matters of visibility and engagement, some of the terminology used can mean different things to different people. For the purposes of this paper, except where otherwise stated, 'visibility' will be used literally, to refer to policing personnel and activity which can be directly seen by the public; 'engagement' refers to how well the police understand and communicate with Dorset's communities; and 'customer service' is focussed on how easy it is to access the police when needed and the quality of the initial handling of public contact.

2. CONTEXT AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1. To provide an effective service, it is vital that the police are both visible to and connected with the communities they serve. There are a variety of reasons for this, most of which can be directly linked to the model of 'policing by consent' that is sought within the UK police service. For instance, it is an established principal that the police are the public and the public are the police. To achieve this, police officers and staff must be connected with the communities that they serve – understanding the needs of those communities and, ideally, representative of those communities too.
- 2.2. Similarly, for members of the public to have confidence in the police, they need to trust them and have confidence that their constabulary are actively working to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB), as well as responding appropriately when issues occur. If the public do not 'see' the work of the police, it is harder for them to have that confidence.

Uplift and Visibility

- 2.3. Over the past three years, Dorset Police has welcomed hundreds of new police officers as part of the national police officer Uplift programme. As has previously been reported, by 31 March 2023 the Force had recruited 174 new police officers – eight above the allocation set by the Government and the largest intake of trainee officers in Dorset Police since the creation of PCCs in 2012.
- 2.4. The Uplift means that Dorset's officer strength totals 1,441 – an increase of 13.7 per cent from the lowest point in 2019, at which point there were 1,267 officers. For context, Home Office data shows that Dorset had 1,528 officers as at 31 March 2010 (or 209 officers per 100,000 population compared with the March 2023 figures of 181 officers per 100,000 population).
- 2.5. As well as workforce strength data, the Home Office publishes figures on local policing numbers and, also, the number and proportion of full-time equivalent (FTE) police officers employed in frontline roles. With regards to the former, Dorset Police had 565 FTE officers working within local policing as at 31 March 2019, compared with 655 FTE as at 31 March 2023. For the latter, data shows that 89% of Dorset officers are in frontline roles, compared with an England and Wales average of 91%.

Police Visibility

As outlined elsewhere within this paper, the issue of police visibility is regularly raised by members of the public. Such concerns are common across UK policing and research suggests that similar sentiments have existed since the establishment of the first professional police forces. That Dorset residents wish for the police to be more visible is, therefore, not in dispute – indeed, it is a legitimate expectation that is reflected clearly within the Dorset Police and Crime Plan.

Nevertheless, while the expectation might be clear, measuring police visibility and also defining ‘what good looks like’ is a far more complicated and nuanced matter.

At the most fundamental level, there is of course a difference between something being visible and it being seen, or an activity being undertaken versus it being recognised. The OPCC can – and does – measure officer and staff numbers; pursue initiatives to ensure personnel are able to operate in communities and away from their desks; and hold the Force to account to ensure that additional officers are involved in community policing. However, measuring whether the public consider there to have been an increase in visibility is a subjective test that is influenced by a wide range of factors. Such factors include recency bias and memory of participants, and also that members of the public will have varying views on what ‘counts’ as being visible. For some, this will be a literal test of whether they have seen the police in any capacity in their local area; for others, the police would need to be on foot patrol, not within a vehicle at the time; and for others still, the police would only be considered visible if they were being seen to do a good job, rather than simply present.

The PCC nevertheless carries out regular engagement and surveying of communities to understand their views on policing and visibility. Such consultation has, naturally, highlighted other challenges. For example, many members of the public wish to see increased visibility to feel safer within their communities. However, last year’s summer safety survey broadly revealed that those respondents who said that the police were more visible within their local area, were on average less likely to agree that Dorset was one of the safest counties. This is straightforwardly explained by the fact that increased police activity is to be expected in urban areas with higher crime rates. Indeed, members of the public understand that a lack of police presence can, at times, be explained by very low local rates of crime and ASB. Or, as the ninth Peelian Principle puts it: “To recognise always that the test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, and not the visible evidence of police action in dealing with them.”

One of the other key challenges with police visibility is that extensive research and evidence shows that police officers patrolling places or passing through an area, regardless of the crime rate in that area, has no effect on crime reduction. Visible police patrol can, of course, reduce crime, but only if these patrols are targeted in the small geographic locations – or hot spots – where crime is concentrated. This distinction is not universally accepted or understood and so it is easy to see how public expectations may not match the operational priorities of police forces.

This is a short synopsis of just some of the issues relating to police visibility and is not intended to be exhaustive. However, the above discussion points hopefully illustrate why the PCC has invested so much time to better understand the public’s views and wishes – via ongoing and extensive consultation and engagement – and also why it is not possible to set a single performance measure that could reliably track the visibility of Dorset Police.

- 2.6. In Dorset, the Force is divided into two Local Policing Areas (LPAs) – Dorset County and Bournemouth Christchurch & Poole, led by a Chief Superintendent. Both of these LPAs are supported by four Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) Inspectors and are operating at full establishment. This establishment is determined through demand analysis and workforce planning and is informed by the Force and PCC strategy. Naturally, as with any large organisation, there will be times when vacancies arise and re-deployment is required to maintain the target operating model.

Dorset Police NPT Inspectors

(As at September 2023)

Dorset County LPA:

- Rural Crime and Neighbourhood Enforcement Teams – Rich Jeffery
- Weymouth – Sam Goom
- West and Purbeck – Ged Want
- North Dorset & East Dorset – Joe Turner

BCP LPA:

- Bournemouth South – Ady Thompson
- Poole – Nick Lee
- Bournemouth North – Fern Graham
- Bournemouth East & Christchurch – Dan Cullen

- 2.7. These inspectors are supported by other supervisory ranks from across the Force. For instance, during each shift there are four uniformed patrol inspectors on duty across the Force, as well as colleagues working within the CID, Operations (for example, firearms and traffic) and training functions to name a few. These inspectors meet every shift to ensure that staff available are directed and supported and – where necessary – shared to meet the needs of the public. This is managed through well-established tasking processes and includes consideration of wider partnership resources, such as Community Safety Accredited Schemes for example.

Engagement and Connectivity

- 2.8. Dorset Police has published Neighbourhood Engagement Commitments (NEC) for each of the NPT areas in Force. These can be found on the Force website at www.dorset.police.uk under the respective NPT area pages. For instance, the NEC for Bournemouth South can be found [here](#).
- 2.9. The NECs outline the standards that the Chief Constable expects of each NPT. The documents include information about the NPT policing priorities; the extent to which the team will engage at face-to-face events; use of social media and digital platforms; plans for consultation with local people; and also, the NPT's efforts in ensuring that there is good engagement across their communities.
- 2.10. In terms of that last point, NPTs make use of what is known as the 'Community Contact' system – a repository of local people who have good links to their communities and are perhaps especially well placed to provide NPT with valuable views and information. The Community Contacts for each area will vary, but include elected representatives, community and faith group leaders, representatives from seldom heard groups and partner agencies, to list a few examples. The Community Contacts have grown both in size and usage over the past few years, and there has been a particular focus in ensuring that a greater number of elected representatives are included. It is acknowledged, however, that – in some areas – there has been a delay in updating the databases following local elections. The NPTs are working to review the system and ensure it is as up-to-date as possible.

- 2.11. The NECs are revised twice a year and republished. They are owned by the Neighbourhood Inspectors and signed off by the Neighbourhood Chief Inspector. An engagement working group monitors the production and implementation of the NECs and, in practical terms, information and evidence is gathered to ensure that the commitments are being met, to share best practice and to address any gaps in service should they arise.
- 2.12. The Force's volunteering programme, Citizens in Policing, is also crucial to connectivity. Latest figures show that the Force has 107 Special Constables; 119 Police Support Volunteers, fulfilling 174 volunteering roles; and 85 Volunteer Police Cadets. These numbers do not include the approximately 700 people who volunteer to undertake Community Speed Watch duties, nor the near 2000 people who are part of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes.

Customer Service

- 2.13. In most cases, the police first become aware of crime and ASB incidents after receiving reports from members of the public. Although some reports occur face-to-face – for instance at a police station front counter, or in person during a patrol – most are received via telephony or electronically via the Force website. The volume of public contact received by Dorset Police is considerable:

1 April – 31 July 2023	
999 Calls	Non-Emergency Contact (101 calls, Single Online Home forms, Emails etc)
53,623	74,199

- 2.14. Contact via the 999 system is prioritised. Figures for the period 1 April – 31 July 2023, shows that there has been a 13.8% increase in 999 call volume compared with the same period last year, which represents an additional 6,520 calls. The Force answered 86.9% of these calls within 10 seconds – against a target of 90%. This represented a 6.3% improvement on the same period last year, despite the additional demand.
- 2.15. Non-emergency contact accounts for a higher proportion of the contact that Dorset Police receives from the public. Such contact is predominantly received via two routes – the 101 non-emergency telephone number and the various reporting forms that are included on the Force's website. As with emergency contact, the non-emergency contact is also triaged (in part to ensure against misdirected emergency calls for service) so that it is correctly prioritised and appropriately directed. The majority of non-emergency calls are answered by the triage team in under 30 seconds. Of those that are then directed to the Force Control Centre call handlers, the performance data for 1 April – 31 July 2023 shows that the average answer time is 13.1 minutes – a reduction of 4.4 minutes when compared with the same period last year. After being answered, calls tend to take around 30 minutes to complete.
- 2.16. At peak times, such as weekends and evenings, 101 call answer times do, of course, increase and it is not uncommon for members of the public to raise concerns about such delays. Consequently, there is extensive scrutiny of the way in which the Force handles this contact to ensure that Dorset Police is providing both an efficient and effective service. To avoid these delays – and to free up the phone lines for those who either need, or prefer, to use them – the Force encourages members of the public to use the Force website, which is now part of the Single Online Home (SOH) platform, to report non-emergency matters.

Single Online Home

The Single Online Home (SOH) platform is a national service that now underpins 35 of the 43 police force websites in England and Wales. Or, to put it another way, 80% of the English and Welsh populations are now covered by SOH. It is anticipated that all forces will eventually onboard to the service, with Dorset Police being one of the later adopters of the technology.

The intention behind SOH is to ensure that there is a simple and consistent website offering across the police service, rather than users needing to adapt to different systems when engaging with different forces. SOH also benefits from a range of functions that were not universally available to all police forces – for instance, a directory of useful information and advice, informed by national data and learning; the ability to report a wide range of crimes and incidents online; and also, for automated communication with police ICT systems. When fully operational, early adopters of SOH are reporting an increased volume of contact from communities, as well as increased efficiency through the automation of systems.

While the benefits of SOH are clear, there are limitations. Most notably, it is no longer possible for SOH forces to make ad-hoc changes to all aspects of the website – indeed, in some instances, alterations require both agreement nationally and, also, to be of greater urgency than other competing requests. When considering changes, the national programme team will seek to implement solutions that benefit all forces, and, naturally, seek evidence and data to support the requests being made. In theory this should mean that web changes are only put in place where a strong business case exists, as opposed to a small number of strongly held opinions.

Another aspect of SOH that deserves closer examination is the use of web forms. The introduction of SOH did not preclude the use of crime and incident reporting via email, which was a separate decision made by Dorset Police. Nevertheless, the introduction of SOH has been shown to greatly increase online and digital reporting in those forces already onboard the system. The online forms are designed to gather all of the information that the police require in order to enact upon reports, comply with data recording rules, and monitor the report thereafter. Typically, the forms take around 15 minutes to complete.

Of course, the 15 minutes spent completing the forms is greater than the time it would take members of the public to email in the basic thrust of their reports and enquiries. However, Force analysis showed that the total time dealing with email correspondence – both in terms of the physical inputs required by members of the public and contact handlers, and also from first contact to the point at which full details had been acquired – was overwhelmingly greater. This is because most members of the public, even those who have a need to more regularly contact the police, do not know exactly all of the information that the police require. So, while the initial email may have been quick to send, the subsequent follow-up emails and calls from the Force means that the SOH forms work out quicker overall. For this reason, it is more accurate to compare the use of such forms with the total time required to report a matter to the police via email, rather than merely the time it took to write the first email in a longer chain.

- 2.17. In July 2023, 3,723 SOH forms were received by Dorset Police, or approximately 120 per day. Comparisons with historic email volumes are not reliable, as multiple incoming emails would often be required to adequately address a single incident, whereas SOH is designed to ensure that a single submission is all that is required.

Nevertheless, Force data demonstrates that SOH correspondence is at a higher volume than was previously received via web forms and that both incident and crime data is consistent with previous years – in other words, there is nothing in the data to suggest that SOH is acting as a barrier to community reporting.

- 2.18. One particular category of public contact that rightly receives additional scrutiny is that of complaints made to the police service – another area in which the PCC has roles and responsibilities. Police complaints legislation is complex. To broadly summarise, the majority of complaints about the police service must be first handled by the relevant police force unless they refer to the most serious matters (for instance, allegations concerning deaths and serious injuries) in which case the appropriate authority is the Independent Office of Police Conduct (IOPC). For complaints handled by the Force, complainants have a right of appeal to the PCC should they remain dissatisfied with the response. PCCs also have responsibility for handling complaints against Chief Constables, as well as a broader responsibility to hold the Chief Constable to account for the provision of an efficient complaints service.
- 2.19. The complaints system provides forces with an invaluable opportunity to learn from past errors and also to restore confidence in those who have not received the service that they expect.
- 2.20. According to the latest [national data](#), Dorset Police logged 356 complaint cases between 1 April and 30 June 2023. The average for Most Similar Forces (MSF) during this period was 450. These complaints consisted of 513 allegations for Dorset Police, against a MSF average of 683. Generally speaking, around 40% of complaint allegations made to Dorset Police are resolved outside of Schedule 3 of the Police Reform Act – meaning that they have been dealt with informally to the satisfaction of the complainant, without the need for further activity. Of those that are recorded under Schedule 3, the Force concludes that the service provided was acceptable in around two-thirds of allegations, with the service for the remaining third either being deemed not acceptable, or unable to be determined.
- 2.21. As mentioned, following the Force determination, complainants have a right to review. The review body in the majority of cases is the PCC. Between 1 April and 30 June 2023, the PCC received 25 requests for review. In that same period 22 reviews were completed, of which just over 20% were upheld, which is in-line with the national average.

3. RESPONSE AND PROGRESS MADE AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN

Uplift and Visibility

- 3.1. As articulated earlier in this paper, the Uplift numbers in Dorset were met by 31 March 2023, the end of the three-year programme. Indeed, the Force was able to surpass the target set by the Government by eight officers as a consequence of the largest recruitment drive in the Force's history – with the 174 new officers in addition to the normal annual officer recruitment required to replace those who resign, retire or otherwise leave the Force. In February 2023, the Police and Crime Panel approved the PCC's precept proposal which will secure additional officers above the Government's target.
- 3.2. The PCC has been clear that the majority of these new officers should be deployed, as per residents' wishes, into community roles. All student officers (unless they are on the accelerated detective scheme, which applies to only a small number) are placed into local policing roles once they achieve Independent Patrol Status, typically around week 36 of their training. These roles are then protected within the local policing command for a period of 68 or 120 weeks (dependent on whether students are on a two or three-year route) to allow them to gain operational competence,

before they are permitted to move elsewhere within the Force. Of course, many will continue to work within these roles once confirmed in rank for many years.

- 3.3. As at 31 March 2023, 78 out of the 117 officers recruited within the first two years were allocated to response and neighbourhood policing. Other officers have been allocated to critical safeguarding and investigative roles.
- 3.4. During the recruitment drive there has also been a continued focus on increasing diversity within the workforce. Since 2019 there has been an increase in officers identifying as white non-British by 11 from 16 to 27. There has been an increase in officers identifying as Black, Asian, or ethnically diverse by 19 from 20 to 39 and an increase in female officers from 382 to 472.
- 3.5. Beyond workforce numbers, there have also been technological improvements to increase the time that officers can spend within communities. One such development is the introduction of software called Pronto – a mobile toolkit that allows officers to record data and access information without the need to be in stations. Officers can, to provide a few examples, now access information from the Police National Computer, scan fingerprints from suspects at the roadside and log forms remotely.
- 3.6. Similarly, the Force has introduced new smart-working zones across the Force estate, which allows officers to more ably work in the locations that best suit operational requirements, rather than being forced to return to a specific desk. This has been augmented by the roll-out of Office 365 and other cloud-based software, again allowing easier access to information and systems.

Engagement and Connectivity

- 3.7. In order to improve accessibility and connectivity in Dorset, the PCC has pushed for a number of improvements since the launch of the Police and Crime Plan. One of the most notable changes has been the re-opening of three police station front counters. A trial opening of front desks at Blandford, Lyme Regis and Swanage is now underway with Blandford Station front-desk having re-opened 27 March 2023, the front-desk at Lyme Regis re-opening 30 May 2023, and the Swanage front-desk re-opening 4 August 2023.
- 3.8. As well as re-opening front counters, Dorset Police has also introduced Community Contact Points. This is another way for members of the public to meet their local officers, report incidents, or discuss issues face-to-face. These Community Contact Points are drop-in events scheduled across the whole of the county. To date, Dorset Police has delivered more than 30 Community Contact Points across the force area, in Verwood, Ferndown, Swanage, North Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. Up-and-coming Community Contact Point opportunities are advertised on the Dorset Police website and local social media platforms. For more information, residents can enter their postcode at www.dorset.police.uk. There, details can be found about Community Contact Points and also how to follow the local team on social media.
- 3.9. Connectivity can be especially challenging in more rural locations. To address this, the Police and Crime Panel will be aware that the size of the Dorset Police Rural Crime Team has grown approximately fourfold since 2021, now totalling 18 members. The PCC has also supported investment into two new vehicles for the Rural Crime Team – a rural crime engagement van and a bespoke 4x4 vehicle, which allows the Rural Crime Team to reach more remote areas and rural communities, improving visibility, connectivity and communication between the police and the rural communities they serve.
- 3.10. Last year, the PCC also established the Dorset Partnership Against Rural Crime as a forum for partner agencies to work together to tackle rural crime and encourage

better connectivity and engagement between key partners and communities. Key to this is the PCC's [Country Watch](#) scheme, which has been discussed in depth at previous Police and Crime Panel meetings.

- 3.11. The PCC's office has also been closely involved in the initial development, implementation and scrutiny of the Neighbourhood Engagement Commitments. The OPCC is part of the working group that monitors the performance against the Commitments and the Director of the Operations has also undertaken reality-testing across all Neighbourhood Policing Team areas to make sure that expectations are being met. As previously reported to the Panel, the OPCC has observed significant improvements compared with the position of past years.
- 3.12. In terms of the PCC's own engagement, the work of the Commissioner and his office is detailed within the Annual Reports provided to the Police and Crime Panel and published [online](#). The following table provides a high-level summary of OPCC activity in 2022/23:

Website Page Views	105,132
Unique Website Views	64,204
Public Contact Received	1,713
Facebook Followers	2,600
Twitter Followers	6,884
Instagram Followers	700
Dorset Alert Subscribers	8,756
Articles Published	80+

- 3.13. The PCC also regularly attends community group meetings, conferences, face-to-face meetings and events across the county and directly engages with residents and stakeholders. Naturally, this engagement includes elected representatives and there has been a considerable uplift in communication with local politicians since the PCC took up post. For example, he has established quarterly meetings with local authority leaders; there are regularly scheduled meetings with all of the county's MPs; and he, or his office, attend Community Safety Panels and regularly meet with community safety leads.
- 3.14. As already articulated, there has been good progress made within the Force's Citizens in Policing programme across the last two years. For example, in line with the PCC's commitment, the Volunteer Police Cadets scheme in Dorset has been expanded – with four units now up and running in Bournemouth, Christchurch, Corfe Mullen and Weymouth, each with capacity for up to 30 young people. The Force has also increased its capacity for future recruitment of special constables and data suggests that volunteering hours have increased in 2023 compared with 2022.

Customer Service

- 3.15. The PCC regularly receives feedback about the way in which the Force handles public contact, which is why there are a number of commitments within the Police and Crime Plan aimed at addressing this important area of business. The re-opening of front counters and introduction of Community Contact Points – as mentioned in the previous section of this report – is one way in which public contact is being adapted to meet the wishes of members of the public.

- 3.16. The adoption of SOH, another commitment within the Police and Crime, went live in March of this year. The introduction of SOH should facilitate increased online reporting and help to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Force's public contact handling. The PCC is, however, clear that the Force's communications approach in support of the launch of SOH was insufficient – with neither the benefits of the change, nor clear enough guidance for users being adequately disseminated ahead of the go-live date.
- 3.17. Since March, the OPCC has worked closely with the Force to rectify this, and the PCC welcomes the opportunity provided by this report and the Panel's Key Lines of Enquiries to clarify important messages about the SOH service. In the last few months, improvements have been made to the website as a direct consequence of challenge from the PCC; renewed communication has been distributed, and a targeted stakeholder engagement day was hosted by the PCC at Winfrith headquarters on 22 September 2023. Development ideas – including the Panel's suggestion regarding user profiles – have been shared with the Force web team, acknowledging, of course, that major changes need agreement nationally. Indeed, in response to PCC and community feedback, the Force has made a change to the 'tiles' on the website homepage to make it quicker and clearer for members of the public to report community intelligence.
- 3.18. Related to public contact, it is of course crucial that once reports are received by the police that the response is appropriate. It is for this reason that, when faced with data appearing to indicate Force response times were declining, the PCC issued a formal Challenge to the Chief Constable.
- 3.19. The PCC received a response to his Challenge in the first quarter of this year, which has previously been shared with Members. In summary, like other Forces, Dorset has given itself a target of responding to Grade 1 – the highest priority – emergency calls for service within 20 minutes. This data was previously presented as measured from the time of the call being answered, to the time of the officer arriving on scene. Some forces measured this data similarly, whereas others started from the point that officers were dispatched, meaning that comparisons were difficult. Dorset has now changed its process, and measures both answer time, as described, and response time – the time from the point of dispatch to the point of arrival. By clearly measuring both times, opportunities to examine both control room performance and local policing response can be taken.
- 3.20. This work has also considered a wide range of other factors – including resources, systems, infrastructure, and the relative use of different contact channels – and ultimately has resulted in a new performance measure being adopted. This is an ambitious, but achievable, call answering to dispatch target time of five minutes, and a dispatch to arrival target time of 15 minutes, meaning an overall response within 20 minutes. The new target will be monitored through the Strategic Performance Board. A range of improvements to call handling has resulted in a speedier process there, and recent statistics show that 87% of grade 1 emergency calls are dispatched within five minutes, and that officers arrive at 79% of such calls within 15 minutes, which is also an improvement on the previous position.
- 3.21. Finally, the performance relating to PCC complaints reviews has seen a notable boost within the last year. As already articulated, the PCC's Complaints Review Officer now upholds reviews in line with the national average (around 20%) and the timeliness of this function has also improved, with Dorset OPCC taking an average of 29 working days to complete reviews compared with a national average of 56 days (1 April to 30 June 2023). As previously reported to the Panel, the OPCC review processes were subject to audit in 2021/22 and a Police and Crime Panel [Scrutiny Review](#), the latter concluding that processes are conducted fairly, efficiently and effectively.

4. PCC SCRUTINY

- 4.1. The PCC and his office apply considerable scrutiny to Force activity and performance in relation to Making Policing More Visible and Connected. This is to ensure that the commitments within the Police and Crime Plan are being progressed and, crucially, that public expectations are being met.
- 4.2. As previously discussed with the Panel and detailed earlier within this paper, the PCC and his office examined the Force's Uplift Programme to ensure not only that it met the government-set target, but also that additional officers went into frontline and neighbourhood policing. Formal updates continue to be provided at a variety of workplace planning meetings and boards attended by the Force and the OPCC Senior Management Team.
- 4.3. Overall Force performance data – which includes crime performance, contact handling and response times, among other relevant areas – is monitored by the Performance Board, which is attended by the OPCC Chief Executive. Key updates from this forum are provided to the Joint Leadership Board for further discussion and scrutiny.
- 4.4. More granular data and progress updates that are relevant to this priority, are discussed at several other Force and OPCC boards. For example, the Force's ongoing transformation programme – Contact Demand and Engagement Management (CDEM) – is tracked and discussed at the eponymous Board; the recruitment and retention of volunteers is examined at the Citizens in Policing Board; and complaints data is scrutinised at the Standards and Ethics Board. All three of those Boards are attended by the OPCC Director of Operations.
- 4.5. The PCC and his office also hold the Force to account via the PCC's Use of Police Powers and Standards scrutiny panel, which considers public contact and complaints performance. For the latter, the OPCC also undertakes a dip-sampling process to assess the quality of police complaints handling for those complaints which are not subject to OPCC review requests. Of course, for those that are subject to OPCC review requests, these are undertaken by the independent Complaints Review Officer.
- 4.6. The PCC and his office regularly raise public concerns relating to visibility, engagement and customer service to the Force, whether raised through traditional public contact, face-to-face and online engagement activity, or via regular surveys and consultations. This is combined with other formal challenge, ongoing dip-sampling and reality-testing activities. For example, Neighbourhood Engagement Commitment scrutiny and the PCC Challenge concerning Force response times.

5. NEXT STEPS AND CHALLENGES

- 5.1. The PCC is determined to improve visibility and connectivity in Dorset Police and his Police and Crime Plan clearly sets out themes that he, and his office, are working hard to address. Over the past two years, considerable progress has been made against the commitments within the Police and Crime Plan.
- 5.2. In the short-term, the increase in the number of officers should assist the Force to provide a more visible presence and other developments, such as the re-opening of front counters and the introduction of SOH, should facilitate further improvements within the public contact space. However, the PCC is cognisant that it will take some time to meet the public's expectations in this area due to the training of new officers, implementation of further technology, and the requisite cultural change. Equally,

recent years have continued to show an increase in complexity and volume of demand placed upon police forces, which naturally means that decisions about where best to place resources are far from straightforward.

- 5.3. Of course, there are persistent challenges that also remain. Funding is, inevitably, one such challenge. Dorset Police remains among the lowest funded forces in England and Wales and the PCC continues to lobby for additional investment – arguing that seasonality and sparsity (two issues that greatly impact upon visibility, for instance) should be accounted for within the national calculations. The PCC will continue to put pressure upon the Government to make the required changes to the funding formula.
- 5.4. It should also be recognised that this priority area, perhaps more than any other, is affected by national events. As outlined elsewhere within this paper, visibility and connectivity are closely associated with feelings of safety. Recent controversies and high-profile cases affecting national policing are likely to have an impact upon people's feelings of security all around the country.
- 5.5. Nevertheless, the PCC is confident that positive changes are being made to ensure that Dorset Police is More Visible and Better Connected. This is an area that is extremely important to the PCC and he, along with his office will continue to deliver the commitments within his Police and Crime Plan.

6. RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1. Members are asked to note the report.

ADAM HARROLD
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Members' Enquiries to: Adam Harrold, Director of Operations (01202) 229084

Media Enquiries to: Susan Bloss, Head of Communications & Engagement (01202) 229095



DORSET POLICE & CRIME PANEL – 28 SEPTEMBER 2023

SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE

REPORT BY THE POLICY AND COMMISSIONING MANAGER

PURPOSE

This paper provides an update on the Police and Crime Commissioner's work to support young people. This paper also seeks to address the following six Key Lines of Enquiry as provided by the Dorset Police and Crime Panel:

- I. What level of engagement has the PCC had with schools and other providers within the school age group? Has there been any early impact on driving down youth crime from this intervention work? What age groups does this intervention cover? How does the PCC monitor success of these initiatives?*
- II. How does the PCC hold the Chief Constable to account to ensure that policing of youth ASB/crime is evidence based and focused in the correct areas?*
- III. What interventions does the PCC believe that Dorset Police can make in order to have really positive impact?*
- IV. How has the PCC worked with partner agencies to improve early youth crime intervention, and what future partnership work is intended?*
- V. How has the PCC built on the review of the Dorset Police's Safe Schools and Communities team? How can the PCC be assured that it is efficient, effective, and delivering improvement?*
- VI. What future challenges does the PCC foresee in driving down youth crime and what further improvements does he believe that the Force and partners can deliver in order to provide successful outcomes for the young people of Dorset?*

1. INTRODUCTION

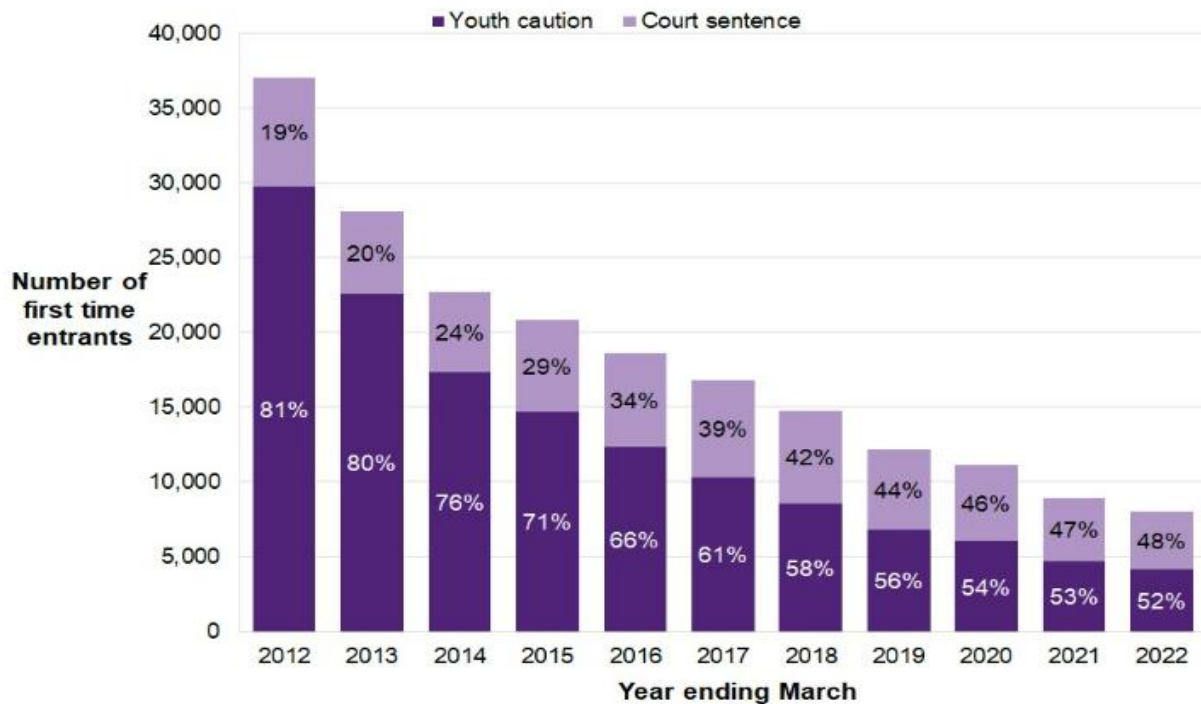
- 1.1 All children deserve the right to thrive and grow up in a safe, protected environment. Such an ambition works in harmony with the Dorset Police and Crime Plan which commits to support young people. That means making sure young people are not left behind and, by working with a wide range of partners, policing can assist in providing support for those who are struggling. The challenge to 'Fix the Future' is considerable, and goes far beyond policing of course, but it is important we work closely with our partners to collectively give young people the right tools to make the right decisions.
- 1.2 While all public services work carefully to achieve this goal, the funding and delivery challenges in recent years have led to a reduction in so-called 'open access' (or 'universal') services, including a range of leisure, cultural, sporting and enrichment activities often based around youth centres at the heart of local communities.

- 1.3 Our young people should have safe spaces to gather, and access to support which helps them develop – whether through alternative education provision and opportunities to improve employment skills and training, or through traditional educational routes – all with a forward focus on helping them to become productive and resilient adults.
- 1.4 That said, it is understandable that in recent years, many statutory agencies have not been able to provide universal, protective services for all young people. Instead, agencies have focused on targeted provision for vulnerable young people, including physical health, sexual health and mental health advice and access to specialist services; youth justice services and young offending teams; and educational and training services.
- 1.5 From a Police and Crime Plan perspective, Supporting Young People is a key theme within Priority 1 – Cut Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), and contains several commitments with a prevention focus, as follows:
- Build on the review of Dorset Police’s Safe Schools and Communities team to establish a new programme of education, intervention and early diversion aimed at Dorset’s young people.
 - Ensure that the police and partner agencies support primary school age children and seek to divert them away from negative behaviours.
 - Ensure that each school in Dorset has a designated point of contact in Dorset Police when dealing with serious issues.
 - Provide funding for schemes and initiatives proven to prevent young people from committing crimes and, more generally, work to keep young people out of the criminal justice system by promoting a trauma-informed, child-centred policing model that takes account of adverse childhood experiences.
 - Expand the Dorset Police Cadet Scheme and improve engagement between young people and the police.
 - Proactively engage with young people, listening to their views to help shape policing strategy and to help improve operational policing practice.
- 1.6 Progress against these commitments is detailed within this report.
- 1.7 Several further Police and Crime Plan commitments align to the objective of supporting young people, including:
- The PCC chairing the Dorset Criminal Justice Board (DCJB). As Chair, he works closely with the Force and other partners to enhance the work to divert young people from the Criminal Justice System (CJS).
 - Funding the Dorset Combined Youth Justice Service (DCYJS), including OPCC being a member of the DCYJS Partnership Board.
 - Funding the Dorset Police Safer Schools and Communities Team (SSCT).
- 1.8 As stated, this objective does not fall to policing alone. We have strong partnerships and partners, including with the wider justice system, health, and education, who are all equally committed to keeping children safe and improving their lives. We must continue to challenge one another to be as effective and achieve as much as possible.
- 1.9 It is also helpful to note the statutory responsibilities of partners. Each local authority (through the Crime and Disorder Act 1998) and after consultation with partner agencies, is required to formulate and implement an annual [Youth Justice Plan](#), setting out how youth justice services in their area are to be provided and funded, how they will operate, and what functions will be carried out.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 99.6% of young people do not become involved with the criminal justice system. The weight of evidence continues to [indicate](#) that contact with the criminal justice system at a young age increases, not decreases, the likelihood of future criminal behaviour.

2.2 It is for this reason that successive Governments have maintained a focus on reducing the number of first-time entrants into the criminal justice system, and as a result, these data have been trending downwards for several years. However, it should be noted that the proportion of young people being cautioned is also decreasing year-on-year:



First time entrants to the CJS aged 10 to 17, England and Wales, years ending March 2012 to 2022 (Source: [Youth Justice Board](#))

2.3 Supporting this national steer, policing takes a child-centred approach. Children and young people feature across all aspects of policing and the Dorset Police Child Centred Policing Strategy 2023-2025 (currently in draft) not only further embeds the Force vision of a safe county for everyone, but also aligns to the values as set out in the [National Child Centred Best Practice Framework](#). These values have been created using the four pillars of procedural justice together with views expressed by children and young people themselves.

Procedural Justice

The procedural justice approach sets out that if agencies treat people in a fair manner (**fairness**), engage with them respectfully (**respect**), carefully listen to their views and concerns (**voice**) and consider these before making transparent decisions (**trust**); the agency will be viewed as more legitimate and the public will exhibit greater compliance with its decisions.

2.4 Wider public services also take a trauma informed approach to managing young people that, for Dorset Police, recognises the circumstances and context of any offending behaviour. In those circumstances Dorset Police is committed to ensuring

that each child is treated fairly and with dignity and that even though they might be a more serious offender, they are still a child.

- 2.5 This approach recognises the impact that trauma, including but not limited to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), has on individuals and in acknowledging this, accepts that providing appropriate support to that person will not only build their physiological resilience, but also help them better desist from future offending behaviour.
- 2.6 The consistent and compelling evidence around ACEs shows the harm caused by child abuse, neglect, and other adversities, and demonstrates clear links with criminogenic factors (factors that increase the risk of offending) including poor educational outcomes, substance abuse and physical and mental health problems.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

In 2021, the then Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation, published [research](#) that assessed 200 young people on the caseloads of youth justice workers using a dedicated ACEs assessment tool.

Two-thirds of the young people (66%) had five or more ACEs, with over a fifth (22%) having eight or more ACEs. Only two of the young people (1%) had no recorded ACEs.

The types of ACEs included experiencing emotional abuse or neglect, physical abuse or neglect and sexual abuse, as well as experiencing parental loss or imprisonment, or witnessing domestic abuse or substance within the family.

- 2.7 Finally, there is often public debate about the age of criminal responsibility in this country and the policing of children. It is therefore relevant to note that, at 10 years old, the minimum age of criminal responsibility in England, Wales and Northern Ireland is one of the youngest in the world.

3. ACTIVITY

A. Partner Agencies

- 3.1 A key factor in supporting young people is the provision of educational, recreational, and cultural activities for them to undertake outside of school. As has previously been reported to the Panel, the Local Government Association has highlighted the [decline in the provision of youth services](#), with around one billion pounds being taken out of youth services from 2010 to 2020.
- 3.2 The recent launch to [transform youth centres](#) by the Government may assist those areas identified with greatest need, but local councils and the voluntary sector play a crucial role in the maintenance of such services.
- 3.3 Extra-curricular activities aside, other agencies and structures also play an important part. For instance, the Dorset Combined Youth Justice Service (DCYJS) works with young people to help them make positive changes, to keep them safe, to keep other people safe, and to repair the harm caused to victims. The DCYJS supports the national 'child first' vision and, as already mentioned, is required to publish an annual [Youth Justice Plan](#).
- 3.4 Early help provision also has good links with partners in Dorset including working closely with the DCYJS. The support for families exists in both [BCP Council](#) and [Dorset](#)

[Council](#), and multi-agency partnership working to tackle ASB through support and diversion schemes.

- 3.5 Two key workstreams of the Combatting Drugs Partnership (CDP) are prevention, and treatment and recovery. Partners are focused on working with young people and their families, to identify the challenges they face and support them to move away from addiction and substance misuse.
- 3.6 For those young people who continue to behave in ways that have a negative impact on the community, a referral to the Community Consequences scheme can be made. Dorset Police initially developed this scheme, however the local authority ASB teams in most cases take the lead. There are three stages, as follows:
1. If a young person comes to the attention of the ASB Team or Police for their unacceptable behaviour, a letter is sent to their parents/guardians, highlighting the concerns. If there are no further incidents, the warning lasts six months.
 2. A home visit will be made by the Neighbourhood Policing Team and council ASB team to outline concerns and offer support and guidance in preventing further unacceptable behaviour. This gives the young person and family a chance to make some positive changes to stop the escalation of behaviour. An Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC) might be used if appropriate.
 3. A referral will be made to the Complex Cases Team. A letter will be sent from the Neighbourhood Policing Team Sergeant outlining the fact that the behaviour has not changed and is still having an impact on the community. Other partners such as social services, education, and housing will come together to see what support can be offered. An ABC process will be initiated if it has not already.

B. Dorset Police

- 3.7 Naturally, police officers and staff across the Force will interact with young people, however there are two teams especially responsible for child-centred policing – the Safer Schools and Communities Team (SSCT) and the Youth Justice Team (YJT). Both teams report into the Dorset Police Prevention Department.
- 3.8 The teams provide a visible, accessible, and familiar presence to young people, working to promote positive engagement, reduce victimisation, and reduce offending. They are focussed on:
- Delivering the Force's informal Youth Out of Court Disposals (OoCDs)
 - Dealing with low level school-based incidents
 - Operating the Policing in Schools model
- 3.9 The last of these, the Policing in Schools model, is a refreshed approach to schools policing, which followed the review into the SSCT undertaken approximately three years ago. The model is delivered following [national guidance](#) and best practice. Every school in Dorset now has a named police contact and all schools are assessed on their levels of risk factors and offered a tiered level of support, according to their needs. Tier 1 is a universal service; Tier 2 is an enhanced service, and Tier 3 is a complex service.
- 3.10 There are currently 80 schools in Dorset (rising from 52 last year) receiving the Tier 3 support from the SSCT. These schools have a named Safe Schools and Communities Officer (SSCO) who provides the following:

Reassurance & responsiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A visible and approachable police presence to provide advice on issues around crime, safety, and the law. • Early identification of risk and vulnerability within the school community
Relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The offer for young people to meet with a SSCO in a neutral environment to positively influence relationships and behaviour inside and outside of school. • The sharing of innovative and successful new approaches to safeguarding and crime prevention • Improved links to other services
Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved information sharing and reaction to safeguarding concerns. • Delivery and facilitation of educational police presentations to prevent crime, improve safety and enhance PSHE / RSE • Improved access to intervention and diversion schemes

3.11 The YJT is responsible for making all OoCD decisions for young people aged 10 to 17 years old. The YJT oversees:

- Consultation with the DCYJS and other partners on all submitted cases so an informed disposal decision can be made.
- Ensuring that young people considered vulnerable or at risk of further offending are signposted into support services at the earliest opportunity.
- Delivery of the disposal by police officers or the DCYJS.

3.12 A joint working Youth OoCD Protocol is in place between the Force, DCYJS and the early help services in both councils. It includes an agreed flowchart mapping the process, responsibilities, and timelines. Available disposals are:

- Informal – Including the Youth Diversion Scheme (now known as the Turnaround scheme), Youth Diversion Disposals, and Youth Restorative Disposals.
- Formal – Youth Caution and Youth Conditional Caution

3.13 As stated, the directive of the Children’s Commissioner and the national Youth Justice Board is to divert children away from the criminal justice system to prevent them becoming first time entrants and to prevent reoffending.

3.14 Informal disposals are used to divert young people from the CJS while supporting them from reoffending. This requires close working with partner agencies to ensure that wraparound support is provided. Informal interventions are varied and tailored to the individual, and can include training, awareness, and support on:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • anger management, • animal cruelty, • antisocial behaviour, • assault, • child exploitation, • child sexual exploitation, • county lines, • consequential thinking, • criminal damage, • disclosure, • diversity, | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • driving, • fire setting, • knife crime, • motivational interviewing, • peer pressure, • relationship abuse, • restorative justice, • risk and risky behaviours, • self-esteem, • sexually harmful behaviour, • speech and language, |
|---|---|

- substance use, and
- victim awareness.

Interventions used with young people (Source: Dorset Combined Youth Justice Service)

- 3.15 Reducing criminalisation of children in care is another responsibility the Force has. It is signed up to the joint working protocol, along with the OPCC, both BCP and Dorset Councils, the Crown Prosecution Service and DCYJS.
- 3.16 Aside from the work of the SSCT and YJT, it is also important to note the activity undertaken by the Force's Citizens in Policing Team, which oversees the Volunteer Police Cadets (VPC) scheme in Dorset. The scheme is delivered by vetted and trained volunteer cadet leaders who deliver the cadet sessions to young people aged 13 to 17 years old.
- 3.17 Like other national groups such as the Scouts or Girl Guides, the VPC scheme is designed to encourage the spirit of adventure and good citizenship amongst its members. Specifically, though, the VPC is also designed to support local policing priorities through volunteering, to give young people a chance to be heard, and to inspire young people to participate positively in their communities.
- 3.18 Police Cadets in Dorset have recently helped with Force and OPCC stands at several summer engagement events, litter picked at various locations around the county, assisted in bike tagging, and have observed, taken part in and given feedback on a range of appropriate policing training. They have also assisted in carrying out community speed watch activities, and undertaken test purchases on behalf of the Force and the local authorities.
- 3.19 A key principle of the VPC is to have at least 25% of cadets from a vulnerable background, including those at risk of offending or reoffending. There are four schemes running in Bournemouth, Christchurch, Corfe Mullen, and Weymouth, each with capacity for up to thirty young people.

C. OPCC

- 3.20 The PCC and his office commission activity to support young people and undertake regular and robust scrutiny of the Force's approach to working with young people, as well as that of wider relevant partnerships.

Commissioning

- 3.21 The review of the SSCT has been built on, and the Force has implemented several changes to deliver on this, most significantly the new Policing in Schools model as outlined above (starts paragraph 3.8). As part of this change, the PCC also met his commitment to ensure that each school in Dorset has a dedicated point of contact in Dorset Police.

Aside from providing funding directly to the SSCT, the OPCC has also been establishing a new programme of education, intervention, and early diversion to support the aforementioned new model. All these schemes will be fully evaluated as part of the commissioning process to ensure efficiency and effectiveness, and include to date, the funding of:

- The Alcohol Education Trust to develop and evaluate with schools an Alcohol and Drugs Education pilot.
- AFC Bournemouth to support vulnerable young people and divert them away from the risks of County Lines; and

- Future Roots to deliver practical non-classroom employment specific courses to provide young people with an applied approach to achieving skills.
- 3.22 Through the work of the Combatting Drugs Partnership, the PCC, as the Senior Responsible Officer, has ensured that the Force and partner agencies support primary school age children and seek to divert them away from negative behaviours.
- 3.23 This is undertaken through the Prevention Sub-Group and the establishment of the working groups focussed on supporting young people and families at most risk of substance misuse. This includes working with key stages 1 and 2 around relationships and wellbeing. The OPCC funds Dorset Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council to deliver drug and alcohol diversions to young people as part of an informal disposal and/or out of court disposal.
- 3.24 Additionally, Circles SW are commissioned to work with young people, and with professionals working with young people to reduce the risks of sex offending.
- 3.25 In addition to directly funding the DCYJS to reduce the risks of reoffending, the OPCC has established two funds for schemes and initiatives to prevent young people from committing crimes and, more generally, work to keep young people out of the criminal justice system by promoting a trauma-informed, child-centred policing model that takes account of adverse childhood experiences.
- 3.26 Firstly, the Op Relentless Community Fund was established in 2021/22 and enables community and voluntary organisations to apply for funding to reduce ASB. So far, three rounds have taken place and twenty-nine initiatives have been supported ranging from youth outreach to security improvements in local communities.
- 3.27 Secondly, the Fix the Future Fund was established in 2022/23 to support local initiatives which engaged with young people to divert them away from criminal behaviour. Nine initiatives were supported through the first round of funding. These include: the provision of a weekly dance session as a tool to engage and positively influence young males who are disengaged with education, are at risk of displaying anti-social behaviours and/or entering the criminal justice system; and workshops and assemblies in primary schools, secondary schools and colleges, for all young people aged 9-18, raising awareness of child exploitation and grooming, and teaching protective strategies. A further round of funding will be launched this autumn.
- 3.28 The OPCC has also worked with the Force to expand the Volunteer Police Cadets (VPC) scheme and to improve engagement between young people and the police. As mentioned above (paragraph 3.15) this has now expanded to four schemes, with plans to expand by a further two units. This would result in a total of around 180 cadets and 60 volunteer cadet leaders.
- 3.29 National research and best practice evidence shows that VPC units provide an especially good opportunity to engage with a wide spectrum of young people from across the county. During Summer 2023, the OPCC attended the four cadet schemes and held interactive sessions to seek their views on policing in Dorset. This work is part of a wider suite of youth engagement activity designed to better understand young people's views of crime, offending and policing and what might be done to help improve operational policing practice for those at greater risk of contact with the CJS. The first round of findings are currently being reviewed by OPCC.

Scrutiny

- 3.30 From a partnership perspective, the OPCC is a member of the DCYJS Partnership Board and as a commissioning agency scrutinises and supports this work. Of note, the

OPCC participated in the Joint Inspection of DCYJS by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation, HMICFRS and the Care Quality Commission. The [report](#) published in January 2023 rated the service overall as good.

- 3.31 The OPCC also meets quarterly with the regional lead for the Government's YJB to keep up to date with their expectations of the local YJS and is an attendee at the Community Safety Partnership meetings for Dorset Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council areas.
- 3.32 As already articulated, the PCC personally chairs the Combatting Drugs Partnership, as senior responsible officer, and chairs the Dorset Criminal Justice Board. The latter provides him with an ongoing overview of the youth justice work in Dorset.
- 3.33 Furthermore, the OPCC attends several Dorset Police boards which have either a focus on supporting young people, or cover strategic activities which are aligned to that objective, these include:
- Child Centred Policing Board: designed to ensure that the Force's Child Centred Policing strategy is delivered in line with national best practice and guidelines.
 - Citizens in Policing Board: which considers the strategy, performance and governance relating to volunteering with Dorset Police. A key component of this is, of course, the Dorset Police Volunteer Police Cadet scheme.
 - Strategic Performance Board: the Force's primary performance meeting, at which key trends and issues are explored and scrutinised.
 - Out of Court Disposals Scrutiny Panel: the PCC's independent panel, which considers the use of youth OoCDs to ensure that they are reasonable and proportionate, and provides strategic feedback to Dorset Police, as well as tactical feedback to officers and staff following the panel's findings.
- 3.34 The OPCC also regularly liaises with and receives update reports about the work of the Force's Child Centred Policing Team within the Prevention Department to ensure that the service is efficient and effective.

4. OUTCOMES

A. Partner Agencies

- 4.1 The data on outcomes achieved by partner agencies is not held by OPCC, but by way of insight, a case study has kindly been provided by DCYJS.

R is 16 years old; he was 15 at the time of our intervention and was 14 at the time of the offence. At the time of the offence R was at home with his adoptive mother and her partner, however, the family environment was breaking down. R was spending a lot of time in the community and relationships were very strained.

R worked with us under a Youth Caution. When he came to work with us R was in a foster placement, on the whole he was more settled but understandably there were still some difficulties following the break down in family relationships. His adoptive mother had moved abroad by this time and there was limited contact.

R had committed burglary of a dwelling, where he had broken into a room of an elderly lady who lived in a care home and had stolen her bank card. He had then used her

bank card in shops local to the area. The victim had dementia and therefore was not able to provide a full victim statement when our restorative practitioners contacted her. However, her daughter was able to provide this on her behalf. Whilst she did not want to meet with R directly, she did want a letter read to him about the impact of the actions he had taken. This formed a restorative piece of work we were able to complete.

Intervention

In terms of the intervention, our Youth Justice Worker sat with R and took him through the content of the letter. This was a very powerful session. What we and R were not aware of, was that the victim had unfortunately already been financially taken advantage of and had had a lot of money stolen, therefore the further theft had significantly impacted the family again and caused a lot of distress.

R was able to reflect and really take this on board, his reactions indicated that he was remorseful and had not understood the full weight of the actions he had taken. He was described to be a bit teary and shocked. He said he was in a very different place then and a lot has changed for him since this time. He shared that he had not known what to do at that time, he felt alone and did not know where to go for help He did offer to write an apology letter to the victim and wanted her to know he was sorry.

Outcome

R did not miss any appointments and engaged in all sessions well. R had five sessions in total but was also seeing professionals through social care and had commenced tutoring following being out of school for some time. At the end of the intervention R had been in his foster placement for a year and had some stability. He had not come to attention for any further offences.

B. Dorset Police and OPCC

4.2 As Members will appreciate, it is challenging to quantify the benefit of preventative work as is it not possible to accurately quantify the numbers of, for example, offences prevented from happening through specific interventions.

4.3 Therefore, qualitative data can be useful, and a range of feedback is provided below outlining the benefit of the Dorset Police SSCT work, as espoused by teachers over the previous 12 months:

"I met with [name redacted] recently and he spoke very highly of the work you are delivering to the [redacted] Academy, so I wanted to write to you to thank you and make the Prevention Command Team aware. [He] outlined how proactive you are in your approach and relationship with the academy, and how helpful and supportive you are to the Senior Leadership Team. It is wonderful to hear of the positive impact you are having with one of the largest schools in [place redacted], and that both pupils, teaching staff, and parents/carers are benefiting from your work. All too often this feedback is not shared and [he] was keen for Dorset Police to be aware of the contribution you are making to the school and what an asset you are to Dorset Police."

"Please can you send our heartfelt thanks to [name redacted] for yesterday. She did an amazing job, and we feel so grateful to her for the time she spent with the children yesterday and the messages she put across in a friendly, but firm way. Perfect!"

"We had OFSTED in this week and one area they praised was our work with external agencies such as yourself and how proactive we are about it. So, I wanted to say thank you for the big role you play in supporting these comments."

“I just wanted to email and say a huge thank you for your patience and understanding yesterday afternoon, it was a very difficult situation with our pupil and your support was invaluable. I know it meant that you spent most of your day with us and I very much appreciate your time.”

“Just wanted to say how impressed I am with the updated knife and weapons video that SSCT have produced. From my perspective its pitched really well and something that we’ll definitely promote the use of in the YJS.”

Note: This is ‘Click & Play’ education created by the SSCT which the Youth Justice Service use when working with children on youth OoCDs.

“Thank you to [name redacted] for attending the Anti bullying forum last week. Your input was very valuable and helped us to think through the links to bullying, being vulnerable and county lines. We were also able to reflect on encouraging children to talk to adults and not feel that they are ‘snitching’.”

“Thank you very much for attending both of the [redacted] forums last week. Your presentations were really good, very relevant material and a good up-date of your services. It was fast paced which was good for us with so much to get through each time! We always appreciate the SSCT joining us as schools value your work greatly as we do.”

- 4.4 As has previously been presented to the Panel, Dorset Police and OPCC have funded – through the internal Innovation Board – the development of an artificial intelligence system, in partnership with BAE Systems. The platform analyses data records for emerging and persistent patterns, and can identify links within large, administrative datasets that humans are simply incapable of discerning.

Intelligent Lead Assessment Service

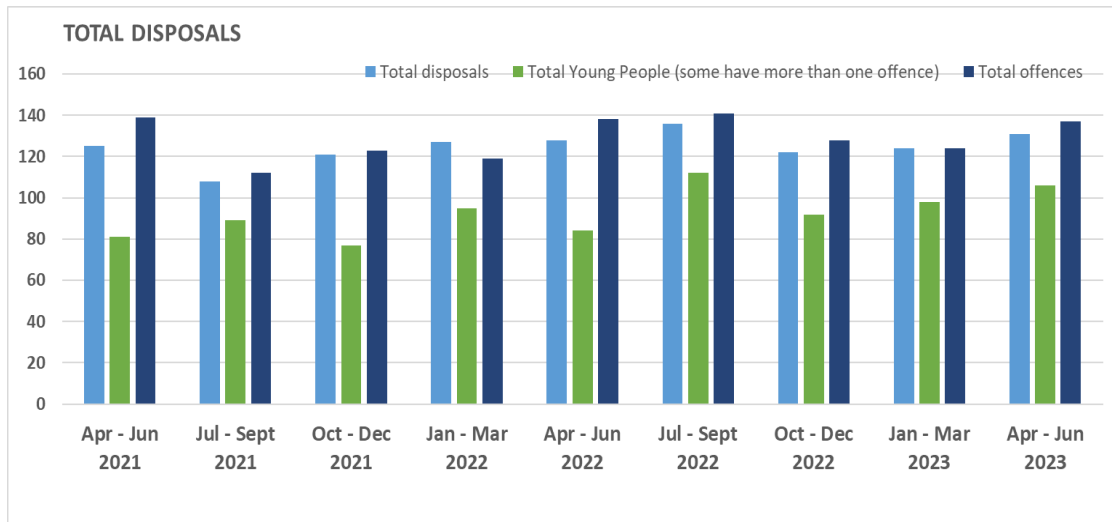
ILAS, or the [Intelligent Lead Assessment Service](#), within Dorset Police is used to identify the vulnerability of young people to exploitation through the assessment of multiple data points held in its administrative datasets.

For example, a young person might be vulnerable to exploitation through previously being involved in anti-social behaviour, having difficulties at school and/or periods of truancy or exclusion, and having an association with a known drug user or street dealer.

ILAS will scan information held in the dataset in the background and highlight any potential areas or individuals for further consideration by police analysts. These analysts having reviewed the data highlighted by ILAS, can make referrals to the Dorset Police Prevention Team, who can undertake action as necessary, including carrying out protective or safeguarding home visits.

- 4.5 It is not uncommon to read reports which conclude that the police, social services, or local authorities had failed to identify emerging issues, over a period of years, despite having had access to telling information. ILAS is incredibly helpful here. While humans find it difficult to highlight anomalies amongst large and complex datasets, systems do not, and can identify new information as part of a typical pattern, or something different.
- 4.6 In addition to the qualitative information provided around prevention outcomes, a range of quantitative data is held about crime and offending outcomes.

- 4.7 The table below shows the number of offences committed by young people from 2021/22 to present, by quarter, in dark blue. The total number of disposals is shown in lighter blue, and the total number of young people involved in green. These last two numbers are different as some young people commit more than one offence, and a single disposal can be used to deal with more than one offence by the same young person:



- 4.8 In 2021/22 there were 493 offences committed by 135 young people with 481 disposals; in 2022/23 there were 531 offences committed by 135 young people with 510 disposals; and in the first quarter 2023/24 there were 137 offences committed by 106 young people with 131 disposals.
- 4.9 Therefore, there was a slight increase in offences of 7.2% between 2021/2022 and 2022/2023. Dorset Police advise that it is highly likely that the improved relationships with schools, through the work highlighted above, resulted in more incidents and offences being reported. For example, there were increases in the reporting of sex offences from schools following targeted awareness on violence against women and girls being provided. This increase is therefore seen as positive.

5. NEXT STEPS AND CHALLENGES

- 5.1 With the sustained and long-term reduction in the provision of services and activities for young people, allied with the current cost-of-living challenges, it is to be anticipated that additional demand has been, and will continue to be, placed upon police youth justice teams.
- 5.2 The PCC, and his office, will continue to work with partners to explore further opportunities around prevention and diversion activity along with continued monitoring and support for existing work. However, policing cannot sufficiently bridge gaps left by the withdrawal of other services – indeed, given the need for impactful education and diversionary work to be undertaken at a very early stage, the police service is also not the appropriate agency to undertake much of this work.
- 5.3 Despite this overarching challenge, there remain positive opportunities. The work of the Combatting Drugs Partnership, chaired by the PCC, has been a key chance to address some of the needs to support young people and their families. The recent Serious Violence Duty will likewise offer opportunities, and will no doubt be further reported on to the Panel in due course.

- 5.4 The PCC continues to lobby for funding across the prevention strand of the Government's 10-year drugs strategy [From Harm to Hope](#), and has received good support from local Parliamentarians on this matter. The PCC would also welcome the support and influence of local elected representatives in highlighting the need for further prevention and diversionary activity across all statutory partners, and in identifying opportunities for partners to progress this accordingly. Some of this can be achieved via the work of the DCYJS Partnership Board.
- 5.5 In particular, the PCC continues to lobby for funding for a Violence Reduction Unit in Dorset. A core aim of any such unit is to reduce the risk of young people committing violent crime. Central government has not allocated this funding to the county, but the PCC remains convinced that partner agencies could help to make up this shortfall.
- 5.6 The PCC is committed to supporting young people and he, along with his office, will continue to deliver the commitments made within his Police and Crime Plan.

6. RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 Members are asked to note the report.

POLICY AND COMMISSIONING MANAGER

Members' Enquiries to: Adam Harrold, Director of Operations (01202) 229084

Media Enquiries to: Susan Bloss, Head of Communications & Engagement (01202) 229095

This page is intentionally left blank

Dorset Police and Crime Panel Forward Workplan

Priority Leads:

Priority	Priority Lead One	Priority Lead Two
Cut Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour	Cllr Pete Barrow	Cllr Tony Trent
Make Policing More Visible and Connected	Cllr Sherry Jespersen	Cllr Graham Carr-Jones
Fight Violent Crime and High Harm	Cllr Patrick Canavan	Dr Elizabeth Mytton
Fight Rural Crime	Cllr Les Fry	Cllr David Flagg
Put Victim and Communities First	Cllr Alasdair Keddie	Cllr Peter Sidaway
Make Every Penny Count	Mike Short	Cllr Batstone

Item	Agenda Item	Title	PCP Lead
Q2 – 14 December 2023			
1)	Declarations of Interest		
2)	Minutes		
3)	Public Participation		
4)	Monitoring Report	Quarter Two 2023/24	
5)	Local/National Issues		
6)	Discussion Item One	Reduce Crime	Priority 5
7)	Discussion Item Two	Wildlife Crime	Priority 4 / L Fry
8)	Annual Activity	Review of Precept Activity	
9)	Complaints Update		
10)	Forward Workplan		
Q3 – 1 February 2024			
1)	Declarations of Interest		
2)	Minutes		
3)	Public Participation		
4)	Budget Precept	Budget Precept – 2024/25	
5)	Monitoring Report	Quarter Three 2023/24	
6)	Local/National Issues		
7)	Discussion Item One	Rehabilitation	Priority 3
9)	Annual Activity		
10)	Complaints Update		
11)	Forward Workplan		
Q4			
1)	Declarations of Interest		
2)	Minutes		
3)	Public Participation		
4)	Monitoring Report	Quarter Four 2023/24	
5)	Local/National Issues		
6)	Discussion Item One	PCC Commissioning value for money	Priority 6 / M Short
7)	Discussion Item Two	Alcohol, drug and gambling abuse	Priority 5 /

Item	Agenda Item	Title	PCP Lead
8)	Annual Activity	PCC Annual Report Police and Crime Plan Update? Election of Chair / Vice Chair	
9)	Complaints Update		
10)	Forward Workplan		

Items in **Red** are proposals. Items in **Black** are confirmed with the OPCC/PCP.

Items To Be Scheduled

<u>Item</u>	<u>Rationale</u>
Review demand model / police numbers	Postponed from Feb 23 meeting
The value of the Restorative Justice Service	Identified Dec 22 meeting
Serious Violence Duty legislation	Identified Feb 23 meeting
Deep dive into Domestic Abuse, incl encouraging male victims to come forward	Identified Feb 23 meeting
Police Race Action Plan update	Identified July 23 meeting