



Newsletter

Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland

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Burglar-proofing homes in Oadby and Wigston

More than 400 residents turned up to a major home security event to claim free security items to protect their properties from burglars.

My office hosted the event in partnership with Leicestershire Police and Oadby and Wigston Borough Council at the Brocks Hill Council Offices to raise awareness of the work underway to make our neighbourhoods more resilient to the activities of thieves.

Staff across the three organisations worked through the day to provide free security devices such

as CCTV cameras, video doorbells, segment light timers, window and door alarms and devices to protect keyless vehicles – often faced with queues of over 100 meters that extended across the carpark!

The event was held as part of the Safer Streets 5 project which has rolled out free security upgrades in hotspot crime areas. To date, more than 700 homes have been provided with improved security measures to reduce their risk of burglary. The project has been a resounding success, with 300 extra homes benefitting against a target of 400.

CCTV makeover on its way in North West Leicestershire

Safety workers will soon overhaul CCTV provision across North West Leicestershire thanks to funding from my office.

As part of my commitment to tackling Rural Crime, I provided a grant worth more than £8k to the Safer North West Leicestershire Partnership towards updating and expanding the current CCTV cover across the district.

It follows representations from several parish councils of the need for improved CCTV to proactively tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB).

Several upgrades will now take place including new CCTV in Ellistown, Whitwick and infrastructure upgrades in Kegworth and Measham.

The work will take place in the coming months via North West Leicestershire District Council's Community Safety Team.



Unveiling my plan for the future

Since my re-election I've spent a huge amount of time speaking to residents and businesses to understand the issues that matter most to our communities. These insights are now the foundation of my new Police and Crime Plan.

Building safer and more prosperous communities will drive everything I do over the next four years, and I look forward to working with the force, residents and our many



partners in the delivery of my ambitions.

Almost 3,000 residents and more than 1,100 key partners responded to my online survey to ensure my Plan represents the needs of those who live and work in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Six key priority areas will steer this work forward:

- Violence and Vulnerability
- Road Safety
- Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)
- Neighbourhood Crime
- Business Crime
- Rural Crime.

For the full Plan visit:
<https://www.leics.pcc.police.uk/Police-and-Crime-Plan>

Vital support for victims of crime



Thousands of people – many of them young – have been referred to a support service I fund to aid the recovery of those impacted by crime.

My Victim First service accepted 8,143 referrals in the six-month period from April with rising numbers of young victims reaching out for help.

The service was redesigned earlier this year and now offers a raft of new features including telephone and triage support and specialist help for people aged under 18 and between 19-24.

Thankfully the force area escaped the disorder seen in other areas in the summer, however Victim First was on-hand regardless, providing drop-in sessions at community venues for anyone affected.

You can self-refer to Victim First by visiting: <https://victimfirst.org> or alternatively call 0800 953 9595.

Dogged detective work recognised

Violence in all its forms is taken seriously across the force and officers relentlessly pursue those who threaten or cause harm.

I recently met Detective Sergeant Nik Sirel to discuss the success of an operation targeting crimes of violence against women and girls (VAWG) which resulted in 11 arrests. This followed detailed investigations by detectives into offences of assault, harassment and domestic abuse and involved the identification of suspects, the provision of safeguarding support to victims and extensive enquiries.

VAWG remains a key priority in my new Police and Crime Plan, and I am determined to increase confidence and trust in the services we provide to encourage more victims to report these crimes. The success of this operation demonstrates that officers take these offences seriously and are working tirelessly to protect other women and men from becoming future victims. I would like to thank staff and officers involved for their tenacity and dedication.





Securing a fairer deal

Like other PCCs, I have vociferously lobbied the Government about the necessity of rethinking its funding formula to stop forces like Leicestershire being left out in the cold when it comes to resources.

As one of the most underfunded forces in the country, Leicestershire is facing significant financial pressure because of an unfair and outdated system, exacerbated by the introduction of underfunded legislation including the ban on XL bullies that has cost our force hundreds of thousands of pounds.

I have written to Policing Minister Dame Diana Johnson to fight our cause and await her response. Read the letter here: <https://leics.pcc.police.uk/News-and-Events/News-Archive/2024/Funding-Review-Letter.aspx>

Innovation in the spotlight



I recently attended the annual policing summit in London which drew together PCCs and senior officers from across the country to discuss the future of law enforcement in England and Wales.

Delegates heard from the new Home Secretary Yvette Cooper and Shadow Home

Secretary Chris Philp and were invited to network with companies offering a range of innovative products, services and technology. I'll be looking into how useful these could be. In all, an interesting couple of days and a great opportunity to pick up new ideas.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

I hope you have an opportunity to enjoy time with your family and friends over the festive period. Please stay safe and enjoy a peaceful and restful Christmas and New Year.

Rupert.



Keep in touch

Please do not hesitate to get in touch at any time using these contact details:

Email: opcc@leics.police.uk | Telephone: 0116 229 8980
Website: www.leics.pcc.police.uk

Please note we are unable to take details of crimes or incidents.

If you need to contact the police please either call 999 if it is an emergency, or dial 101 if it is a non-emergency.

You can also keep up to date with my day to day work via Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and my weekly blog.



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