



Durham Police and
Crime Commissioner's
ANNUAL REPORT

2021/22

Making the communities of County Durham and Darlington safer, stronger and more resilient to crime, drugs and anti-social behaviour




JOY ALLEN
 DURHAM POLICE AND
 CRIME COMMISSIONER

RevDec22



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FOREWORD

FROM THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER



Joy Allen
Durham Police and
Crime Commissioner

Representing the communities of County Durham and Darlington is a responsibility I take extremely seriously. It has been a privilege to serve as Police and Crime Commissioner since I was elected last May, and I take great pride in the many achievements that have followed. Many residents and organisations – and our own policing family including staff, officers, PCSOs, Special Constables and volunteers - have been a part of our journey and I would like to thank them all for their support and contribution to our success.

Last year, I published my first Police and Crime Plan, setting out exactly how I aim to deliver the improvements local people want to see in policing services over the next three years. Central to these has been my ambition to enhance services for victims of crime and I am pleased to say we have already transformed the support we provide by listening and learning from the lived experiences of survivors themselves. Earlier this year, I brought the provision of victims' services under my direct responsibility to ensure appropriate support is available whenever it is needed and to maximise opportunities for improvement.

Further success came in January with the appointment of three new Victims' champions to my team to further strengthen the voices of victims of crime and ensure the planning, policy and commissioning decisions I make reflect their needs.

Protecting women and girls from violence has been another key area of focus over the past year and we have been at the forefront of national efforts to deliver greater justice for sexual violence victims through Project Soteria. Durham Constabulary already has one of the highest charging rates for rape investigations in England and Wales and is

playing a critical role in developing future reform.

I have also funded new support services for survivors of sexual violence to help individuals who have experienced rape and sexual assault including pre-trial therapy and sexual violence counselling.

My plan to put more police officers back on our streets is well established with the continued rollout of the government's Operation Uplift programme which will see our frontline grow by a total of 226 officers by the end of this year.

We continue to work hard to maximise the value of the public purse through the best use of our resources. The construction of our state-of-the-art custody and investigations hub at Durham Gate, near Spennymoor, due to be ready in 2023, will lead to significant efficiencies which will be reinvested into frontline policing while up to £6M of the £20M cost could be spent in the local area. Therefore creating jobs and supporting local businesses.

Nationally, I have secured over £1M from the Home Office's Safer Streets scheme this year to crackdown on neighbourhood crimes, and increase women's safety and additional Ministry of Justice (MoJ) funding to increase investment in support services for survivors of abuse and sexual violence.

I was recently appointed by the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) as Joint Lead for Environment and Sustainability, and Addictions and Substance Misuse, and Deputy Lead for Road Safety and Emergency Service Collaboration. Through my national policy work and the scrutiny I undertake through my accountability meetings,

I will continue to ensure Durham remains at the very forefront of innovation.

Policing is an ever-evolving landscape and many challenges lie ahead, including the need to reduce the unacceptable levels of death and serious injuries on our roads. There has already been significant investment from my own office and partners to develop technical resources to support this work and I will be monitoring the impact of these measures very closely.

Elsewhere, we are responding robustly to the growing demands placed on our 999 and non-emergency 101 services and improving the timeliness of those calls being answered. I have agreed substantial investment to recruit additional call handlers to ease pressure on calls for assistance and this will continue to be an area I will closely scrutinise.

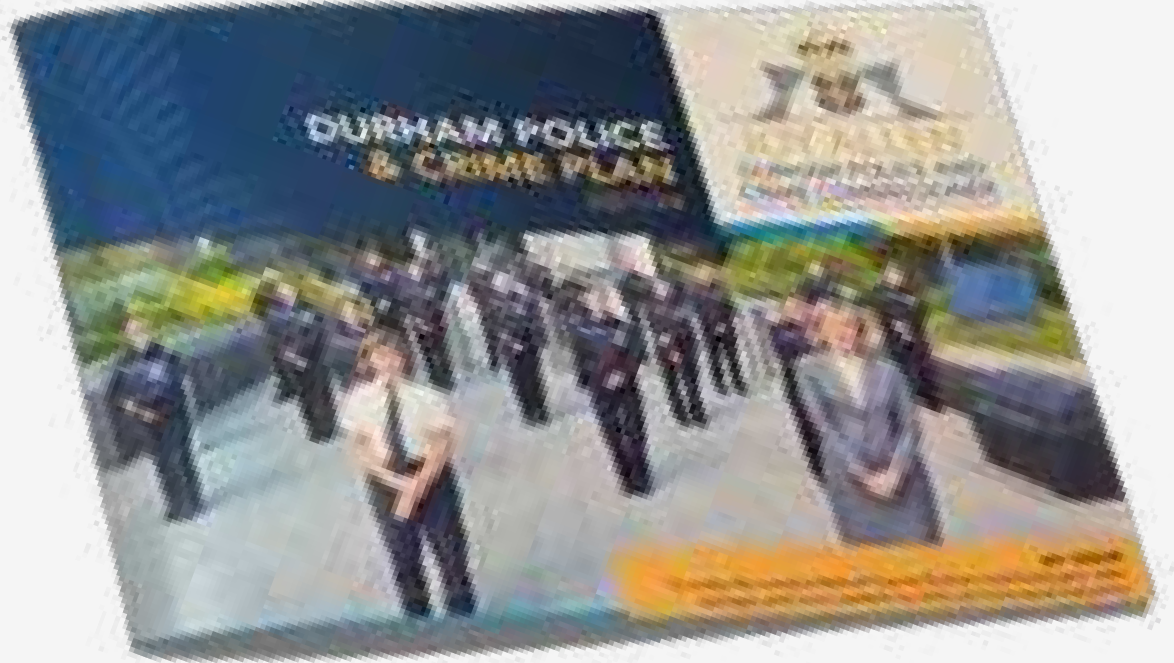
I will also continue to fight at a national level for a fairer funding formula to deal effectively with the rising complexity in demand.

As this year has shown, adversity brings opportunity and so I am looking forward to stretching the boundaries of what we believe is possible to bring the people of County Durham and Darlington the services they deserve. Your support makes it happen and together we will make a difference.

Joy Allen

Durham Police and
Crime Commissioner





VISION

My vision is to make our communities safer, stronger, and more resilient to crime and ASB. I want people in County Durham and Darlington to feel safe and secure in their own homes and in their communities.

From my Police and Crime Surveys, I know residents in County Durham and Darlington are concerned about the crime and disorder they see in their neighbourhoods, such as anti-social behaviour, drug use and drug dealing, fly tipping, speeding, and vandalism and see more Police Officers put back on our streets.

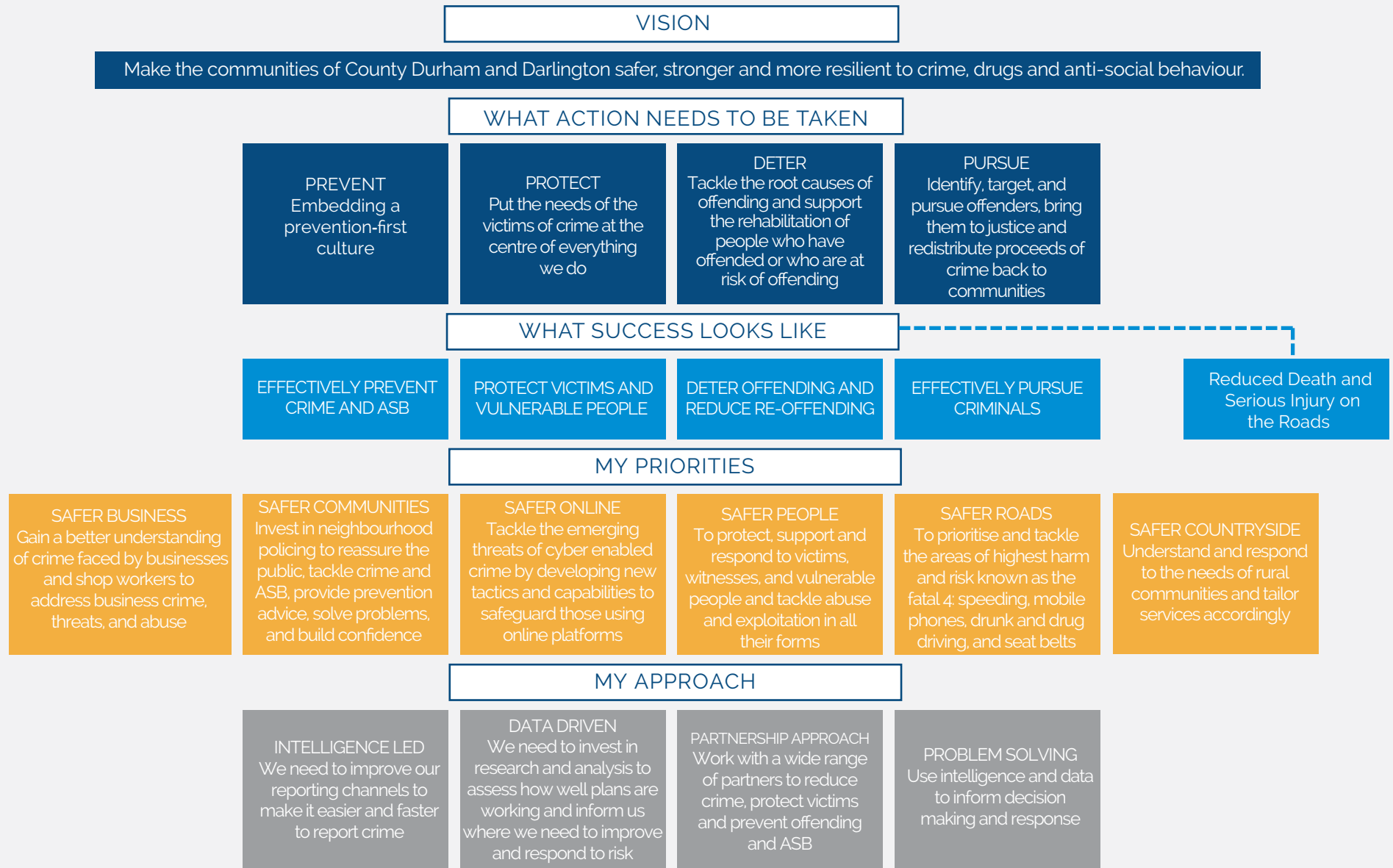
I will work with the Chief Constable and local partners to get more funding for County Durham and Darlington and enable Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) to spend more time on our streets.

Police alone cannot tackle crime and disorder – we need our communities' help to provide us with better intelligence so we can prevent more crime, protect more individuals, deter more offending and reoffending, and pursue more offenders.

Resilient and confident communities are more likely to report crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB), and they are also more likely to work with others to prevent crime and disorder. I want to make our communities feel safe and give them confidence to report crime to help make the communities of County Durham and Darlington safer, stronger and more resilient to crime, drugs and ASB.



THE PUBLIC'S POLICE AND CRIME PRIORITIES - PLAN ON A PAGE



DELIVERING THE PUBLIC'S POLICE AND CRIME PRIORITIES

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and the Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Peel 2021/22 Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy inspection made the following observations

PREVENT

- The Force has a clear focus on preventing crime.
- The Force prioritises preventing crime, anti-social behaviour and vulnerability.

PROTECT

- The Force is good at protecting vulnerable people.
- The Force works well to safeguard those who are vulnerable.
- Officers look for signs of vulnerability when attending incidents.
- The Force provides quality service to victims of crime.

DETER

- The Force has a clear focus of preventing people being drawn into committing crime.
- The Force has an effective approach to offender management, including Checkpoint an innovative scheme to reduce re-offending.
- The Force is good at managing offenders and suspects.
- The Force prevents people from engaging or re-engaging in organised crime.
- The Community Peer Mentor Scheme has demonstrated success in cutting offending. The unique approach has seen an 81% reduction in contact with public services, reduced offending and hospital admissions.

PURSUE

- The Force is effective in apprehending and managing, suspects and offenders to protect the public from harm.
- The Force is outstanding at managing serious and organised crime.
- The Force proactively pursues illicit finances. It has been recognised nationally for its analytical exploitation of suspicious activity reports to identify links to organised crime groups.
- The Force works hard to recover money from Organised Crime Groups through confiscation orders.

INTELLIGENCE LED

- The Force is good at using all available intelligence to identify, understand and prioritise serious and organised crime.
- Digital Intelligence Unit, the dedicated surveillance team and other specialist units allow the force to identify the demand and react accordingly.
- Intelligence is shared allowing an effective approach to managing serious and organised crime, focused on prevention and deterrence.
- The Force Intelligence Unit research incidents involving vulnerability to provide officers with as much information as possible.

DATA DRIVEN

- The Force's investment in digital intelligence and forensics has been recognised nationally for its analytical exploitation.

PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

- The Force works well with other organisations to keep vulnerable people safe.
- The Force works with organisations and local communities to reduce tolerance to organised crime.

PROBLEM SOLVING

- The Force uses problem solving and works in partnership to prevent crime, anti-social behaviour and vulnerability.
- Excellent examples of problem solving and working with other partner agencies to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Problem solving and early intervention work with other organisations are well established throughout the organisation.

CHIEF CONSTABLE'S REPORT

Over the last year, Durham Constabulary has emerged from the unprecedented challenge of policing, despite the day-to-day pressures of protecting the public during the Covid-19 outbreak, we were always looking forward and during the last year we have been able to press ahead with those plans for the future.



Jo Farrell

Chief Constable
Durham Constabulary

We have made good progress in delivering the PCC's Police and Crime Plan. This includes tackling violence against women and girls, tackling ASB, investing in roads policing, strengthening our response to cyber and digital demands, tackling serious and organised crime, delivering the Uplift Programme, increasing the diversity of the workforce, investing in the Force Control Room and issuing officers with better body worn cameras.

As we emerge from Covid, we are seeing both increasing and changing demand. We are seeing changes in society such as increasing levels of mental and physical health related issues, increased online activity, a move away from a cash-based society and increased social isolation. Our priorities remain tackling drugs, alcohol, and cyber related crime. Even with the Uplift Programme we will be approximately 150 officers less than in 2010. However, better recruitment, better welfare, better IT support and better leadership will go some way to mitigating this.

We have additionally introduced a new shift pattern among response teams, which will free up officer time, help with demand management and improve officer wellbeing. Work is underway on the new investigative hub which will centralise Custody, Property Management and CSI services in one building, with more efficient detainee processing and better investigative processes.

I am confident that the actions we have taken means that we can continue to police the present, whilst ensuring future demands are met. I remain incredibly proud of the Force and the talent and efforts of all who work for Durham Constabulary.

Jo Farrell

Chief Constable
Durham Constabulary



MY PRIORITIES

SAFER COMMUNITIES



ENGAGE AND EMPOWER COMMUNITIES TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN CRIME PREVENTION AND RESOLVING LOCAL ISSUES

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Appoint an Anti-Social Behaviour Champion to spearhead multi-agency action to address persistent anti-social behaviour and chair Community Trigger Resolution Meetings.

- ✓ An ASB Champion has been appointed.

To tackle quality of life issues that matter most to residents, such as anti-social behaviour, fly-tipping, vandalism and dog fouling, we have:

- ✓ Partnered with County Durham Foundation to make £150,000 of funding available to help community and voluntary groups deliver the police and crime plan priorities.
- ✓ Secured £670,864 funding from Round 2 of the Safer Streets Fund to tackle neighbourhood crime.
- ✓ Signed a statement of intent with strategic housing providers in County Durham to jointly address and prioritise anti-social behaviour.
- ✓ Invited residents to identify their top anti-social behaviour priorities during council tax precept consultation. 91% identified ASB as an issue, with the majority 45% concerned about alcohol/drug related ASB.
- ✓ Ensured every single incident of ASB is reviewed by Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPT) within 24 hours of reporting.
- ✓ Community Response Teams (CRT) operate in Durham City every night during term time to combat anti-social noise.



Lobby the Home Office to consider replicating legal powers currently available to police in Scotland to enable our officers to serve warnings, fines and seize noisy equipment.

- ✓ Proposals to give police new noise powers are contained in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill.

Ensure signposting is reinforced with a clear distinction of who to direct ASB related issues to and how to get help.

- ✓ Worked with ASB Help to improve signposting on their national help page.
- ✓ Refreshed anti-social behaviour signposting in Force, Durham County Council and Darlington Borough Council.
- ✓ Ensured clear pathways for anti-social behaviour victim support have been agreed and are in place.
- ✓ Ensured that the anti-social behaviour escalation process is fully understood by the NPT.



To ensure the availability of a trauma informed approach to support victims of persistent, unresolved anti-social behaviour, we have:

- ✓ Agreed a process to ensure victims of ASB related crime are referred via the single front door to the Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS).
- ✓ A process in place within Force Communications to ensure ASB incidents are tagged for consideration of Community Peer Mentor support and a process agreed and in place to ensure victims of ASB related crime are referred via the single front door (to the Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS)), with additional support.

To display guidelines on how to enact the (ASB) Community Trigger prominently on websites, notice boards and publications to enable all victims of anti-social behaviour to seek redress, we have:

- ✓ Ensured that Community Trigger information is now available on Durham Constabulary and Local Authority Websites.
- ✓ An agreement in place with Believe Housing to pilot common information signposting & community trigger on their website.





To address student related anti-social behaviour problems, working alongside Durham University and the local authority, we have:

- ✓ Attended community meetings and neighbourhood walkabouts with residents and police and partner agencies.
- ✓ Worked on issues with and within the student community.
- ✓ Submitted a Service Level Agreement to Durham University to fund a PCSO University Liaison Officer.
- ✓ Ensured the Community Response Teams (CRT) are on duty every night of the week throughout term time to combat noise and nuisance. Durham County Council are now issuing Community Protection Notices (CPN) and Community Protection Warnings (CPW) to problem premises.

To encourage victims to submit a written account of the effects of anti-social behaviour and be entitled to read it or have it read out on their behalf at the Community Trigger Meeting. We have:

- ✓ Ensured that the Community Trigger threshold has been reviewed by the Force to be more victim centric to include victim impact statements and to accommodate their attendance at case reviews.
- ✓ Agreed in principle the appeals procedure for a Community Trigger.

To review how the Police, Darlington Borough Council and Durham County Council take ownership of anti-social behaviour reports to ensure people get the right support at the right time by the right organisation. We have:

- ✓ Reviewed the reporting mechanisms and shared our recommendations with Durham County Council and Darlington Borough Council.
- ✓ Secured a commitment from Darlington Borough Council to introduce single front door approach to support the Community Trigger and triage process.
- ✓ Ensured that all staff who have had Continuous Professional Development (CPD) have received an input on Community Trigger.
- ✓ Delivered training to all Neighbourhood Inspectors with key messages cascaded down to NPTs. This training has also been delivered up to Chief Superintendent/Commander level.

To use the full suite of criminal and civic tools and powers to address anti-social behaviour effectively, we have:

- ✓ Welcomed the compulsory introduction of selective licensing for landlords for 41% of privately rented housing in areas in County Durham with low housing demand and high levels of anti-social behaviour.
- ✓ Ensured NPT liaise with partners in Durham County Council (DCC) and Darlington Borough Council (DBC) to target and escalate issues using a problem-solving approach and pursuing perpetrators via the use of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC), Community Protection Warnings (CPW), Community Protection Notices CPN, Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) and Closure Orders.

To provide ongoing communication on what is being done locally to tackle anti-social behaviour across a variety of media platforms, including social media, website, local press, and community visits, we have:

- ✓ Ensured the force has several processes in place around anti-social behaviour communications, including social media posting from Neighbourhood Policing Teams.



- ✓ A new locality based ASB/NPT newsletter is now in place and shared with locally elected members and partners.
- ✓ Undertaken numerous Safer Communities door knocking sessions around County Durham and Darlington with NPT, Wardens, ASB Officers, Town and County Councillors to engage with residents and listen to their concerns.
- ✓ Ensured the PCC's Office developed a communication and engagement strategy to promote what is being doing to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour.

To enable victims of anti-social behaviour to attend a resolution meeting to explain the impact the behaviour has had on them, we have:

- ✓ Ensured that every victim of ASB has the opportunity for a resolution meeting, where appropriate, facilitated through VCAS, in line with existing process.

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 19,261 ASB incidents were recorded which represents a 10% decrease on the previous year.
- Of the ASB recorded incidents, 83% (16,006) were in County Durham and 17% (3,255) in Darlington.
- The highest ASB category reported was ASB nuisance which accounted for 11,738 (61%) of all ASB incidents, of which 5,451 (46%) were youth related.
- The main increases in ASB recorded incidents were: 'off road bikes', youth nuisance and alcohol related ASB.
- Alcohol related ASB incidents accounted for 13% of all ASB – a 2% decrease from the previous year.
- Drug related ASB incidents decreased from 302 in 2020/2021 to 221 in 2021/2022: a reduction of 26.8%.

Please Note:

All statistical data presented in this report was accurate at the time of writing and all comparison data compares the financial year 2020/21 with the financial year 2021/22.



NEIGHBOURHOOD CRIME

To enhance area based multi-agency hubs that support collaborative problem-solving approaches to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and victimisation, we can confirm that:

- ✓ Place based hubs are established in Darlington and Horden, with Darlington operating as a best practice multi-agency hub.
- ✓ PCC contributed £150,000 funding to facilitate the development and delivery of the multi-agency partnership Horden Together Hub to address crime and the fear of crime.
- ✓ PCC devolved £120,000 funding down to Neighbourhood Policing Teams to facilitate an area based problem-solving partnership approach and to attract match funding opportunities to develop local solutions to local problems.
- ✓ The PCC attended 12 Area Action Partnerships (AAP) and Town and Parish Council meetings to share her Police and Crime Plan priorities and to advocate partners adopting a problem-solving partnership approach and joint commissioning to address local crime and anti-social behaviour.
- ✓ A Crime or ASB Assessment Conferences (CASBRAC) process has been introduced as an escalation approach to enact a quick time partnership approach. Between April 2021 and March 2022 there have been 13 CASBRACS.



To ensure Police teams are more visible and accessible and there is a nominated and visible local officer or PCSO in every neighbourhood, we confirm that:

- ✓ The Force's website and www.police.uk contains details of all their NPT teams and contact details.
- ✓ All victims of crime are given the contact details of their local PCSO and/or NPT beat officer.
- ✓ 'Keep in the Know' is used by the NPT to keep local residents informed and updated on crime trends in the area and share timely crime prevention advice.
- ✓ New members of the Neighbourhood Policing Teams are regularly introduced to the public via NPT Facebook pages and Neighbourhood Newsletters.
- ✓ New shift patterns have enabled more officers to be on duty during peak demand periods – at night in city/town centres.

To put more Police Officers back on our streets, we confirm that:

- ✓ From April 2021 to March 2022 Durham Constabulary have recruited 137 Police Officers, 27 PCSOs and 28 call handlers.
- ✓ As of March 2022, 55 people were registered as volunteers with the Force.
- ✓ The Special Constabulary contributed 6,170 hours during 2021/22. The greatest number of hours were allocated to Roads Policing (28%) Response (22%) NPT (20%) and Rural Duty (13%) During this time period they also responded to 116 ASB incidents.
- ✓ There are 120 Volunteer Police Cadets, often working with NPT to problem solve issues specifically relating to young people.



To explore the feasibility of establishing a Community Orientated Policing (COP) bank similar to the NHS nursing banks to address demand pressures and provide additional capacity to respond to localised problem-solving solutions. We confirm that:

- ✓ The PCC has raised this potential workforce opportunity with Unison, the Local Police Federation, the Constabulary, the Minister for Policing, the Special Constabulary and the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners.
- ✓ The PCC will continue to push for this option to be considered to increase uniformed presence in our communities and retain the valuable skills and knowledge of those who would otherwise retire.

To set up Community Safety Volunteer, Employment and Training (VET) Agency to support, promote careers and volunteering opportunities in the criminal justice sector, we confirm that:

- ✓ The PCC has engaged with a local college who already offer a uniformed service course. This college has recently introduced new criminology and psychology degree which was supported by the Police & Crime Commissioner.
- ✓ The PCC is aware of current recruitment challenges and vacancies in the criminal justice sector and is working with partners to raise awareness of training, employment and volunteering opportunities for those considering a career in the sector.



To involve people with lived experience when working with victim of crime, anti-social behaviour, addictions, and abuse, we:

- ✓ Ensure our Victims Champion has opportunities to engage with victims of crime, to learn of their 'lived experience' through their criminal justice journey. These victims testimonies enable us to learn from their experiences to improve services and inform policies and commissioning for victims of crime.
- ✓ Have survivors willing to be consulted on rape and serious sexual offences; violence against women and girls; assault occasioning actual bodily harm; criminal damage; and harassment. One survivor of rape is assisting in training police officers by sharing her 'lived experience'.
- ✓ CPM and volunteers with lived experience help support those who wish to engage and has proved to help empower the victims/survivors to feel their voice has been heard.

To ensure the public know where to report issues and access the right services, at the right time from the right agency, we:

- ✓ Have an agreement to "localise" the ASB Help pages and interactive signposting tool.

To promote and support a multi-agency problem-solving strategy to prevent neighbourhood crime (burglary, robbery, theft from the person and vehicle crime), we have:

- ✓ Secured £1,191,705 Safer Streets Funding for problem-solving projects aimed at reducing neighbourhood crime and reducing fear of crime.
- ✓ Secured £694,192 under this programme and used for projects in Darlington and Easington.
- ✓ Carried out 'Stay safe' operations in areas that had experienced spikes of anti-social behaviour. These involve inviting parents, carers, and children to a location (not a Police Station) to view footage of the incident.
- ✓ Enhanced the Force's problem-solving methodology following a peer review and appointed a dedicated Chief Inspector to oversee this approach.
- ✓ A support team of 36 Problem Orientated Policing (POP) mentors working within the Force supporting and facilitating this approach.
- ✓ A Strategic Problem Solving Group sits within the Force and in January 2022 there were 23 live (POP) plans and 20 POP on a page plans, covering issues such as: alcohol, watch schemes, ASB, efficiency, engagement, arson, mental health, repeat offenders, callers, locations, modern day slavery, wellbeing and vulnerability.
- ✓ A Public Space Protection Order consultation for Durham City was strongly supported by the PCC and Durham Constabulary.



To ensure an effective Integrated Offender Management scheme for identifying neighbourhood crime offenders and intervening to prevent reoffending, we can confirm that:

- ✓ The Force has reviewed its Integrated Offender Management (IOM) unit in line with the Government's refreshed IOM Strategy.
- ✓ The Force has been involved in the Government's innovative Acquisitive Crime GPS tagging project. The project imposes location monitoring, using a GPS tag, on serious acquisitive offenders leaving prison.
- ✓ IOM offenders currently electronically monitored as part of the MOJ Acquisitive Crime Project haven't reoffended since the fitting of the tag.

*The most joined-up approach to offender management was seen in Durham.**

To promote and increase the take up of 'Keep In The Know', a free messaging service to keep local communities informed on what the local neighbourhood police and partners are doing.

(www.keepintheknow.co.uk), we can confirm that:

- ✓ There are 10,721 people signed up to the 'Keep In The Know' messaging service.
- ✓ The PCC and Neighbourhood Policing Teams promote sign up to Keep in the Know at public and community meetings and engagement events across County Durham and via their social media accounts.
- ✓ The PCC's office use the database to promote consultation and engagement opportunities.

To encourage residents to report crime and anti-social behaviour to enable positive action, we have:

- ✓ Ensured that the PCC's Office and NPT regularly encourage residents, either via public meetings or social media, to report crime and ASB and they both highlight the importance of community intelligence when reporting on crimes detected or offenders arrested.



**A joint thematic inspection of the criminal justice journey for individuals with mental health needs and disorders: November 2021: Criminal Justice Joint Inspection: Care Quality Commission: and Healthcare Inspectorate – Wales*





BY THE NUMBERS:

- 2,087 residential burglary crimes were recorded during 2021-22 in comparison to the same period from the previous year, in which there were 1,955 recorded, an increase of 6.8%.
- 2,327 vehicle offences were recorded during 2021-22 in comparison to the same period from the previous year, in which there were 2,158 recorded, an increase of 7.8%. Keyless entry accounted for the majority of Theft of Motor Vehicles TOMV.
- 1124 Theft From Motor Vehicles (TFMV) recorded during 2021/22. 1.3% increase from 2021/21.
- Whilst volume of robbery remains fairly low, crimes increased by 25%, from 148 in 2020/21 to 185 in 2021/22.

**Professional judgement suggests that these increases are due to Covid restrictions lifting and levels resuming.*

SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME

To ensure the Force has the necessary resources to respond to serious organised crime threats (firearms, drugs, child criminal exploitation, fraud, economic crime, cyber, modern slavery, human trafficking) and to tackle and disrupt organised crime groups behind drug activity, we can report that:



- ✓ In the HMICFRS PEEL Inspection Report on Durham Constabulary (October 2021), their work on 'Disrupting Serious Organised Crime' was assessed as '**Outstanding**'.
- ✓ We have a network of Cyber Protect Officers who are dedicated to stopping businesses and individuals from becoming victims of cyber crime. This also includes engaging with victims of cyber crime to provide advice to protect themselves and secure their devices. So far this year (Jan to August), the network has spoken to 91 victims to provide this advice.

To recognise the exploitation of children and young people and continue to identify and safeguard those at risk, we can confirm that:

- ✓ Training has been delivered to Neighbourhood Policing Teams stressing the importance of proactively looking for recognising child sexual exploitation, county lines, modern day slavery and organised crime involvement.
- ✓ 70 general practitioners have been trained (September 2021).
- ✓ 140 safeguarding health professionals have been trained (February 2021).
- ✓ 600 front line practitioners receiving county lines training around child protection, abuse, gangs, county lines, exploitation and trauma.
- ✓ A multi-agency process continues to underpin the work to identify and support those children most at risk of child exploitation.

- ✓ Children with greatest risk are referred to a monthly child exploitation meeting where consideration is given as to how risks to the child may be reduced.

To support the coordination of the local, regional, and national response to modern slavery through the National Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery Network, we can confirm that:

- ✓ The PCC provided £5,000 to develop the Durham Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MHST) Network and a further £22,500 was granted to provide co-ordination of this network across County Durham and Darlington from 1st April 2022.
- ✓ From October 2021 the PCC allocated £13,500 to Changing Lives 'Netreach Pilot' providing a worker to proactively interrogate social media to identify female sex workers either living in or offering services in County Durham and Darlington.



BY THE NUMBERS:

- **385** Arrests (including Voluntary Attenders)
- **118** Charges
- **248.33** Years Sentenced
- **36 Adults and 129 Children** Safeguarded
- **174.13kg, 3,834 Cannabis Plants and 50,788 Class C & 2,000 Class A Tablets** Drugs Recovered
- **40** Firearms Seized (including Guns & Other)
- **45** Rounds Ammunition Seized
- **£1,445,295 Cash & £40 Counterfeit Currency** Seized
- **786,075** Confiscation Orders Granted

SAFER BUSINESS



TO INCREASE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE CRIME, THREATS AND ABUSE FACED BY BUSINESSES AND SHOPWORKERS

To strengthen engagement with local businesses by providing targeted crime prevention advice, to protect them and retail workers. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The force takes an active problem-solving approach to tackling specific issues or hot spot areas for retail related crime and anti-social/abusive behaviour, with a number of POP plans in place to reduce business related crime.
- ✓ Nationally we support the work of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC), and through their business crime portfolio, share best practice and raise awareness of the issues locally to prevent crime, protect staff and retail workers.

To gain a better understanding of the crimes faced by business and ensure they get the support they need to keep themselves and customers safe. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The PCC has quarterly meetings with the National Federation of Independent Retailers in order to get a better understanding of business crime and offer support.
- ✓ The North East Retail Crime Partnership (NERCP) monthly newsletters are now shared with the PCC's Office.
- ✓ Various towns and villages have been visited to meet with business owners to hear about their experience of business crimes and ASB.
- ✓ Established working relationships with our internet service providers in order to amplify our vulnerability notification service.

To take steps to tackle violence against shop workers and support to the Co-op's Respect for Shop Workers and USDAW campaigns. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The Police Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 received royal assent on 28th June 2022. Within the Act is a provision for consideration of aggravating factors of assault on a public service worker (which applied to all retail workers in connection with the public) and empowers courts to treat that fact as an aggravating factor.
- ✓ Our Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS) offers support to all shop workers who are victims of crime.
- ✓ 15 people have been supported during the year, ranging from those shop workers who are assaulted by shoplifters through to a violent knife-point robbery on shop workers.
- ✓ Working with local businesses our Victims' Champion has been able to inform and influence the national development of a victim and business impact statement, to ensure business and retail victims voices are heard.

To promote the use of SentrySIS as an online tool for business, we can confirm that:

- ✓ We promote the use of the Force business crime reporting system, SentrySIS, and the benefits this tool brings to business.
- ✓ SentrySIS allows businesses to report crime online at a time convenient to them and upload any evidence.

such as CCTV directly saving the business time in avoiding having to schedule appointments with officers to gather evidence, take statements etc.

- ✓ The PCC's office monitor SentrySIS to ensure coverage and take up.
- ✓ An article highlighting Durham's SentrySIS work was published in the December edition of the National Federation of Independent Retailers national newsletter reaching 10,000+ members.
- ✓ There were 644 business incident uploads to SentrySIS during this period.
- ✓ To date SentrySIS has saved over 1,675 days of officer time.

To support the roll out and development of shop/retail watch schemes and supportive partnerships that address business/retail crime. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The Regional Economic Crime Co-Ordination Centre works with businesses offering advice and support on a one-to-one basis, and deliver staff awareness sessions to increase resilience of a cyber-attack.
- ✓ The PCC Office has spoken with the National Federation of Independent Retailers to encourage them to link in with the North East Business Resilience Centre (NEBRC) to raise their awareness of Cyber Prevent and Protect for Business and explore potential routes to publicise these opportunities through their national, regional, and local networks.

- ✓ The Cyber Crime Unit actively promote campaigns to advise businesses on how to prevent cyber attacks and fraud and signpost them to Police Cyber Alarm, which is a free tool to help members understand and monitor malicious cyber activity.
- ✓ The North East Cyber Protect Network host webinars and face to face events addressing the cyber threats businesses face and providing mitigation advice in order for them to defend themselves and become more resilient. So far this year (Jan to August, the network has presented at over 80 events across the force area). The network have a suite of products available to provide support to businesses across the force area including staff training, cyber exercising (incident response testing), a cyber basic review and more.
- ✓ From April 2021 to the end of March 2022 there have been 64 businesses referred/signposted to Police Cyber Alarm.
- ✓ The PCC's Office supports the roll out and development of shop/retail watch schemes and supportive partnerships that address business/retail crime.





BY THE NUMBERS:

- 3,557 shoplifting offences were recorded during 2021/2022 in comparison to the same period from the previous year, in which there were 3,209 recorded, an increase of 10.8%.
- 862 Commercial Burglaries were recorded during 2021/2022 in comparison to the same period from the previous year, in which there were 798 recorded, an increase of 8%.

SAFER ONLINE



TACKLE THE EMERGING THREATS OF CYBER-ENABLED AND DEPENDENT CRIME BY DEVELOPING NEW TACTICS AND CAPABILITIES TO SAFEGUARD THOSE USING ONLINE PLATFORMS.

To fund and promote cyber fraud awareness campaigns.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ The North East Cyber Protect Network support businesses to test their resilience to a cyber-attack by offering a vulnerability assessment – the first of its kind in UK policing.
- ✓ The North East Cyber Protect Network continue to deliver workshops to raise awareness of the cyber threats and have established partnerships with local and regional business clusters and support groups to amplify our reach.
- ✓ The North East Cyber Protect Network continues to deliver cyber crime awareness inputs at Masters students at Durham University as part of the yearly curriculum.
- ✓ The North East Cyber Protect Network are innovatively using open source data and other intelligence to proactively find vulnerabilities in the businesses within the region/force area to help businesses defend themselves. So far, we have found and disseminated notifications of over 35,000 vulnerabilities across the region.
- ✓ The PCC Office helps promote cyber fraud awareness via social media channels and newsletters, such as Take 5, NFIB and Action Fraud.
- ✓ We are working closely with our newly formed RECCC (Regional Economic Crime Coordination Centre) to amplify our reach and extend our messaging into fraud and scams.

To support the roll out of cyber-crime prevention volunteers to educate the public on how to protect themselves from cyber enabled crime.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ A model for the training and use of Cybercrime prevention volunteers has been developed.
- ✓ Durham Agency Against Crime (DAAC) cadets have been trained to deliver cyber prevention advice.
- ✓ The PCC and her Office have been working with Barclays Bank and their free Digital Wings initiative to develop a targeted digital champions approach within County Durham and Darlington.

To introduce specialist Cyber Prevention Officers, we can confirm that:

- ✓ Specialist Regional Cyber Protect Officers at NEROCU (changed from NERSOU) work closely with our force cyber protect officers and form the North East Cyber Protect Network, aimed at protecting businesses and individuals from cyber crime. Together, they form part of a larger national network to deliver a national strategy in collaboration with key partners such as the National Cyber Security Centre.
- ✓ A new team of Cyber Protect Officers has been established in NERSOU to deliver a National Strategy in collaboration with key partners such as the National Cyber Security Centre.
- ✓ Expand Cyber Volunteering opportunities to prevent cyber-crime and victimisation.
- ✓ The Force support local businesses to assess their resilience in the event of a cyber-attack. The aim is to reduce the likelihood of business and communities from becoming victims of cybercrime and increase cyber resilience.

To invest in digital investigation and intelligence to improve understanding of the digital footprint to combat internet cyber enabled and cyber dependent criminality. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The North East Cyber Protect Network have been a key influence in the creation of national guidance around cyber domestic violence and will begin training officers internally in 2023.
- ✓ The PCC has provided financial resources to the Force to maximise their use of technology. This includes money to invest in a new telephony system within the force control room.
- ✓ The Force has appointed additional staff and officers to increase its digital investigation team in order to better meet demand.
- ✓ The force now has a dedicated analyst function North East Regional Organised Cyber Crime Unit (NEROCU) who identify crime and intelligence trends in order for us to deliver relevant crime prevention advice.

To raise awareness of how children and adults can stay safe online, how to recognise online grooming, exploitation, and radicalisation. We can confirm that:

- ✓ NPT are trained to give advice around scams, bogus officials, and online safety.
- ✓ Training has been delivered to Neighbourhood Policing Teams stressing the importance of proactively looking for and recognising child sexual exploitation, county lines, modern day slavery and organised crime involvement. There are now Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command ambassadors.

To support vulnerable people to be safe online through educational programmes. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The PCC awarded The North East Regional Cyber Crime Unit £5,000 to enable the Cyber Club to deliver cyber education (11 to 18 years) in County Durham specifically targeting areas with high anti-social behaviour or high deprivation.
- ✓ Young people who have committed a computer misuse offence are referred into the project.
- ✓ VCAS work with Action Fraud to identify victims of fraud and cyber risk assess vulnerability and offer appropriate support including referral to support agencies who can provide prevent and protect advice to avoid vulnerable people falling victim to cyber crime.



BY THE NUMBERS:

- Nationally, fraud is the most commonly experienced crime in the UK accounting for many billions of pounds per year.
- The Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) estimates that there were 34 million incidents of fraud.
- The CSEW suggests that 53% of all crime affecting people in England and Wales is fraud and cybercrime related.
- Its estimated that fewer than 20% of incidents of fraud are reported to the Police so the true figure may be much higher. This means that the scale of fraud is very significant, but under reporting also hampers our understanding of the threat.
- In 2020/21, there were 3,236 reports recorded by Action Fraud and forwarded to Durham Constabulary to offer support. In 2021/22 the respective figure was 2,516
- During the past 12 months VCAS have offered their support to over 1,600 victims of fraud.



SAFER PEOPLE



INVEST IN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TO REASSURE THE PUBLIC, PROVIDE PREVENTION ADVICE, SOLVE PROBLEMS, PROTECT THE VULNERABLE AND BUILD CONFIDENCE.

Victims of crime and anti-social behaviour

To help keep people safe in their homes by working with the local authorities, Health and the Fire and Rescue Service to provide Total Home Safety advice, we can confirm that:

- ✓ Home safety advice is provided by VCAS, who work with the Fire Service and other local organisations – over 250 pieces of safety equipment have been distributed by our victim care and advice service and over 50 home security surveys have been completed, enabling victims to make their homes more secure and feel safer.
- ✓ County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service have delivered a total of 18,832 Home Fire Safety Advice visits.
- ✓ There were 208 accidental dwelling fires in the previous year, the lowest number on record. Tragically there were 15 fatalities associated with these incidents.

To appoint a Victims' Champion to ensure the voice of victims is at the centre of everything we do. We can confirm that:

- ✓ A Victims' Champion has been appointed.

To ensure delivery of seamless high-quality support for victims that enables them to cope with, and recover from, their experience. We can confirm that:



- ✓ The PCC took the decision to bring the Victim Care and Advice Service and Community Peer Mentor Service in house. This transition was completed in March 2022.
- ✓ Victim referral services were reviewed to improve triage and onward support through a streamlined in-house model with a single front door approach to referral services.
- ✓ Each victim of crime is given a victim advice leaflet either electronically or in hard copy. The leaflet contains officer contact information, what to expect in terms of police action and how to access victim support.
- ✓ 89% of victims surveyed agreed they were offered advice.
- ✓ 93% of crime victims agree the Police explained what was going to happen next with 91% of Domestic Abuse victims agreeing with the same question.
- ✓ Community Peer Mentors provide additional and ongoing support to the victims of crime for the medium to long term should they require that support, as well as those affected by the crime who may not be eligible for VCAS support.



To ensure victims feel empowered and confident in reporting crime to the police, reassuring them of the journey through partner services. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The Force delivered a training programme to educate officers and partners around victim blaming language, which has been attended by over 600 people so far.

To ensure compliance with the Code of Practice for Victims (VCoP) so that victims are aware of and can access their rights. We can confirm that:

- ✓ There is a robust VCoP tracker in place within the force and in line with the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) VCoP Compliance Framework.
- ✓ Victim Satisfaction surveys are carried out to monitor service provision.
- ✓ A dip sample method is used to measure compliance across the Criminal Justice System.
- ✓ The Force undertook the College of Policing National Centre for Applied Learning Technologies (NCALT) training package relating to VCoP to increase awareness of the Code of Practice and created an online tool to assist officers to comply with VCoP. 99.8% of the workforce has since completed this training.
- ✓ Compliance within the Force is monitored via a two way pathway, the first of which is via an Inspector Review and reported into Force Policing Performance Group and Senior Leadership Group. The second pathway is via the Total Victim and Witness Care Group and the activity tracker, which ensures actions are being taken either as standard practice or as exceptional tasking under each of the 12 VCoP rights.





To commission high quality services so that victims have access to a range of specialist support services for them and their families at any point and whether they report to the police or not. We can confirm that:

- ✓ PCC awarded RSACC an Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (ISVA) contract worth over £600,000 to start 1st April 2022 for three years.
- ✓ PCC jointly commissioned a Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) regional management service with NHS England and North East PCCs. Mountain Healthcare will commence service delivery from 1st April 2022.
- ✓ Procurement for Sexual Violence counselling services is being supported by Bluelight Commercial to increase local market engagement.
- ✓ PCC secured over £270,000 worth of additional COVID funding from the Ministry of Justice to support organisations delivering services to victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence.

To ensure victims are read their rights at the point of report, or as soon after as possible as with offenders. We can confirm that:

- ✓ Victims are given a Victim of Crime Leaflet which refers to their rights under the Victims' Code of Conduct.

Improve safeguarding for vulnerable adults and children.

We can confirm that:

118 children per month identified as being affected or connected to Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference cases. Children affected by domestic abuse are a key consideration.

- ✓ Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub screens all domestic abuse incidents involving children.
- ✓ Operation Encompass involves the notification of educational establishments where domestic abuse incident occurs in a family with school aged children.

- ✓ Work is underway to extend notification to pre-school and nursery provision as well as neighbouring local authorities

To continuously review and seek to improve those services we commission and co-commission to support victims of crime. We can confirm that:

- ✓ Regular analysis, assessment and review of current commissioned services alongside partners including Durham County Council, Darlington Borough Council, Crown Prosecution Service and Tribunal Service.
- ✓ An independent governance board for the in-house VCAS and Community Peer Mentors service has been established.



HATE CRIME

To promote hate crime prevention initiatives and encourage and facilitate the reporting in all forms of hate crime. We confirm that:

- ✓ The Force Cohesion Unit monitor all hate crimes on a daily basis in a quality assurance role to ensure investigations are appropriate and victim care follow up is in place.
- ✓ Cohesion Officers visit comprehensive schools and colleges raising awareness of hate crime and the impact it has on victims and communities and how to report it to the Police.
- ✓ Cohesion Officers engage with protected community groups across County Durham and Darlington to increase confidence in the Police with diverse communities.
- ✓ The PCC's Office and Force support and promote Hate Hurts Campaign to tackle and raise awareness of hate crime.
- ✓ 10 virtual conferences were delivered during Hate Crime Awareness Week with over 200 people attending including internal officers, partners and community members.
- ✓ Hate Crime Support and Report Centres have been established to give people the ability to access support from specially trained members of staff and enable people to report hate crime through the national hate crime reporting tool, True Vision.
- ✓ All new recruits (PC/PCSO and call handlers) receive input on hate crime and equality, diversity and inclusion from the Cohesion Unit.
- ✓ Every quarter the Force Independent Advisory Group meet and scrutinise hate crimes to offer advice on investigations and victim care. This is then fed back to the organisation to individual officers and supervisors.

To introduce voluntary recording of misogyny/misandry to become an official hate crime category and support educational campaigns to tackle the issue. We can confirm that:

- ✓ At the present time the Government is against creating a new legislation for offences of sexual harassment believing that this can be dealt with by existing laws. This follows the law commissions conclusion that making misogyny a hate crime may be more harmful than helpful, both to victims of violence against women and girls, and also to efforts to tackle hate crime more broadly. We will continue to monitor and respond to the local and national discussions regarding potential and important legislation change.



MENTAL HEALTH

To ensure that the Police are the service of last resort and not the service of first resort for people suffering a mental health crisis, working closely with Community Mental Health Trusts. We can confirm that:

- ✓ In 2021/2022, The Force reported 174,191 incidents of crime and of those 10% (over 17,000) are flagged as mental health related. This increasing demand is placing a significant pressure on policing and on our control room operators.
- ✓ On average 65% of clients referred to the Community Peer Mentors have identified mental health issues.
- ✓ Community Peer Mentor volunteers provided a total of 47,351 days of support to those presenting with mental health issues.
- ✓ In 2021 Community Peer Mentors received 614 referrals and offered support to 76.7% of those referred. Those supported had been involved in 5762 Police incidents in the 12 months before engagement, costing the Force approximately £1.07M. Following engagement with those referred Police contacts were reduced to 1245, saving the Force £0.8M.

To liaise with Public Health, Housing, Employment and Mental Health services to ensure that potential offenders get access to the support that they need. We can confirm that:

- ✓ There is ongoing support through Tees Esk Wear Valley (TEWV) street triage team in the Force control room, TEWV Liaison and Diversion Scheme in police custody.
- ✓ Recent co-commissioning with TEWV identified the Community Peer Mentors as best practise in supporting those with complex mental health needs.

To maintain a multi-agency approach to enable an appropriate response to support people with mental health needs who come in contact with the police and criminal justice system. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The Force works in partnership with the TEWV NHS

Foundation Trust to deliver Familiar Faces, a multi-agency approach to reducing repeat demand from individuals with mental health issues.

- ✓ The Familiar Faces scheme ensures early access to specialist support alongside dedicated and bespoke guidance for officers.
- ✓ Northumbria University are completing a system wide evaluation looking at service user and practitioner perspectives along with metrics based on the demand profile. The most recent evaluation of the Familiar Faces process has revealed an average of an 80% reduction in demand from those who have been subjected to multi-agency plan.
- ✓ There is ongoing support through Checkpoint-adult diversionary scheme, Integrated Offender Management, and the Public Protection Unit.



YOUNG PEOPLE

To ensure policies about young people will be made after engaging and involving young people. We can confirm that:

- ✓ Durham Children in Care Council Conference was led by and informed by voices of care experienced young people aged between 9 and 18.
- ✓ Volunteer Police Cadets are managed by Durham Agency Against Crime (DAAC). There are currently 120 Cadets, 60 junior Cadets (year 7,8,9) and 60 Senior Cadets (year 10,11,12,13). They work closely with the Neighbourhood Policing Teams to problem solve issues specifically relating to young people.

To keep care-experienced young people out of the criminal justice system. We can confirm that:

- ✓ Durham Children in Care Council were supported to pilot a training and awareness session for Durham Constabulary in May 2021.
- ✓ 12 police officers and staff from a cross section of roles attended the sessions.
- ✓ This resulted in further problem-solving work including the Buddy Scheme (trusted contact) for repeat missing children working with local PCSOs.

To divert young people from becoming involved in crime and anti-social behaviour through a range of education, employment, leisure, and training activities. We can confirm that:

- ✓ There has been a significant reduction in first time entrants to the youth justice services in Durham and Darlington; both services provide diversion programmes and a broad range of reparation projects alongside bespoke interventions based upon the level of maturity and understanding of the young person.
- ✓ Durham Youth Justice Service has developed and introduced the VISIT Programme providing early intervention for children who come to the attention of the Police for violence for the first

time. Darlington Youth Engagement and Justice Service were awarded outstanding in their recent government inspection 2021.

- ✓ £253,000 was secured to sustain the financial and management commitment to support Youth Justice Services in Durham and Youth Engagement and Justice Services in Darlington.
- ✓ PCC awarded £6,000 to enable the Youth Justice Services to support out of schoolwork projects linked with the fire service.
- ✓ DAAC Haggrid project is aimed at early intervention of 'at risk' young people.
- ✓ The Mini Police project continues to link with younger aged children around strengthening attitudes and behaviours.
- ✓ £80,000 from Safer Streets Funding tripled funding for the Curve Project. This is an eight-week programme focused on young people who have been involved in ASB. The project has proved successful in engaging children and reducing repeat offences.
- ✓ Community Peer Mentors are permanent members of the Channel Panel for DCC and DBC; referrals from these groups have shown a positive impact on leading young people away from radicalisation. This has been identified regionally and nationally as a best practise approach.



DOMESTIC ABUSE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

To support the use of robust domestic violence perpetrator programmes to prevent domestic violence and abuse happening in the future.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ Perpetrator interventions are included in the Harbour contract for County Durham.
- ✓ PCC secured over £23,000 from Ministry of Justice to tackle domestic abuse.
- ✓ PCC awarded HALO £6,000 to addresses honour-based violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation.
- ✓ PCC secured £80,000 from the Home Office Perpetrator Programme. This is being used to develop training and awareness of child and adolescent to parent violence and abuse.
- ✓ PCC and partners finance the Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) process to address perpetrator behaviour.

To prioritise developing a violence against women and girls' strategy aimed at changing attitudes and improving our knowledge of and response to the crimes that predominantly affect women and girls so that no woman needs to live in fear and girls grow up knowing they are safe. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The Force has developed a Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) strategy and action plan.
- ✓ The PCC secured £497,513 from the Home Office under the Government fund designed to help women and girls feel safe in public places in Darlington Town Centre and supported partners to secure £321,000 for Durham City.
- ✓ Collaboration across the Force is on-going and specific working groups are in place to tackle pursuit and disruption of perpetrators.



To ensure the full powers included in the Domestic Abuse Act are used to protect and support victims and result in meaningful consequences for perpetrators including the effective use of domestic abuse protection notices, domestic abuse protection orders and restraining orders.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ MARAC hears on average 63 cases per month 17% of which involved repeat cases.
- ✓ Professional Review session on the 6/5/21 found that cases were being heard quicker (5 days) compared to previously (15 days) but usually heard cases ½ days after the incident.



To deliver on the recommendations included in the national End to Rape Review. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The Force was one of 4 forces chosen to pilot Operation Soteria to improve charging and prosecution rates for rape and sexual assault and to improve support for victims through the criminal justice system.
- ✓ Early enhanced CPS advice/NFA clinics have been trialled for rape/RASSO areas.
- ✓ The Force has the highest charge rate nationally for rape and this has been consistent over the last 4 years.

To develop and maintain a high-quality Sexual Assault Referral Centre service that meets local needs and national standards.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ As of the 1 April, the new service will be in place, jointly commissioned with NHS England, Northumbria Police & Crime Commissioner and Cleveland Police & Crime Commissioner. A Regional partnership development group and contract management board has been established to oversee the performance and delivery of the contract.

To deliver high quality support for victims of rape and sexual violence and their families where appropriate. We can confirm that:

- ✓ Close working between the Force and CPS is improving the quality of investigations and prosecutions.
- ✓ There is now a joint local rape action plan developed in line with the national action plan.
- ✓ A multi-agency North East Region Rape And Serious Sexual Offences event was held on the 18 November 2021 to share best practice and identify gaps in victim engagement.



- ✓ A workshop was held on the 28 February 2022 to discuss the victims of sexual violence support pathways, to track each agencies roles and responsibilities and to understand pathways, referral mechanisms and to consider processes.
- ✓ COVID funding of £276,293 enabled us to increase Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) support and reduce the waiting list. Portable video recording equipment has been procured to increase the capability of video recorded interview.



To monitor and promote the use of stalking legislation and powers to measure effectiveness. We can confirm that:

- ✓ In the past year the number of stalking offences was reduced from 2,450 in 2020/2021, to 2,067 in 2021/2022: a 16% decrease.
- ✓ In support of the Alice Ruggles Trust, awareness of Stalking Protection Orders has been revisited along with the 7 minute briefing.

To ensure the Force works in partnership with Probation to manage High Risk Offenders through Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), Sexual Offender, Domestic Abuse Perpetrator initiatives and Foreign National Offenders initiatives. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The MAPPA process is fully embedded and managed throughout the Public Protection Unit (PPU).
- ✓ The PCC visited the Public Protection Unit in October 2021 to learn more about the agreed joint process in place between Prison, Probation and Police.
- ✓ MAPPA enables Durham Police to coordinate with other agencies the effective risk management of violent and sexual offenders.
- ✓ Registered Sex Offenders have a designated Police Risk Management Officer who can both benefit from and assist the risk assessment and planning process.

To support the appointment of a Domestic Abuse Victims Voice Worker to ensure the voice of victims is at the centre of everything we do. We can confirm that:

- ✓ A Domestic Abuse Victims' Voice Worker has been appointed.



BY THE NUMBERS:

DOMESTIC ABUSE

- In 2021/22 there were 17,792 domestic abuse incidents recorded that is a 1% decrease from previous year.

MENTAL HEALTH

- During 2021/22 33% of mental health incidents resulted in a crime (5,569) accounting for 9% of all crime.

HATE CRIME

- In 2021/22 there were 942 reports of hate crime incidents.



DRUG, ALCOHOL AND GAMBLING HARM

Develop partnership work to reduce substance, alcohol and gambling misuse which are closely linked to crime and reoffending.

To divert those suffering with chronic addiction away from the criminal justice system towards treatment and harm prevention.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ The PCC was appointed as the National Joint Association of Police & Crime Commissioners (APCC) Lead for addiction and substance abuse – addressing drugs, alcohol, gambling and substance abuse.
- ✓ The Diversion Scheme Checkpoint, provides low level offenders the opportunity to exit the criminal justice system whilst addressing the underlying causes of offending. To date, over 3,000 people have been diverted from the Criminal Justice System.
- ✓ Results of randomised trial highlighted that there was a much greater risk of reoffending for those who did not take part in the Checkpoint Diversionary Scheme.

To support the recommendations made in the review of drug use by Dame Carol Black, contributing to and encouraging a partnership approach to address issues more efficiently. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The PCC in her national APCC joint role for addictions and substance misuse use has set up a national network for lead Police & Crime Commissioner officers to enable them to link up on drug strategy implementation.



To support the ongoing use of Naloxone to prevent deaths from drug use.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ The expansion of naloxone use has progressed in partnership with the Local Authority Public Health teams and the Force.
- ✓ A local agreement has been developed between the Force and DCC to widen the use of naloxone to police officers and custody staff. There are now three parts to this multi-agency project:
 1. Introduction of Naloxone into the custody suites and to Integrated Offender Management Teams. All custody staff have been trained to use it in custody
 2. Naloxone for personal carriage by trauma trained roads policing unit officers and response officers
 3. Distribution of take-home naloxone following release from police custody or at the front desk to those at risk of an overdose.

- ✓ There are currently 183 members of staff/Police Officers that have received initial Naloxone Training throughout the Force Area over the past three years.
- ✓ In addition, substance misuse treatment services and community pharmacies are rolling out take home naloxone across County Durham and Darlington.
- ✓ All North East prisons have increased the roll out of naloxone. As an example, at HMP Durham, 223 naloxone kits were issued to known opiate users upon release from prison between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022. This is 45% of opiate users released from the prison.

To develop multi-agency strategies and fund initiatives to reduce the harm caused by drugs in the community. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The Force recently employed an alcohol and drug referral/ educational worker to liaise with public health, drug and alcohol treatment services to progress strategies to prevent drug harm.
- ✓ The licensing unit liaise with local licensee and licensed premises to ensure they are aware of spiking uses and develop strategies to provide education and reassurance to the public.
- ✓ 100 door supervisors and bar staff were trained in Darlington, 50 night time economy workers trained in Durham on vulnerabilities of using drugs and preventative strategies.
- ✓ Officers use drug dogs to target licensed premises to identify and target drug users.



To promote the voluntary use of sobriety tags and alcohol interlocks.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ The PCC has invested in alcohol sobriety tags for use on a voluntary basis for those who are not eligible for any court-imposed orders and who have committed an alcohol-related offence.

To promote awareness of the dangers of excessive alcohol consumption through engagement with charities such as 'One Punch North East'.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ The PCC has pledged her support to One Punch Awareness Week and fully supports the One Punch campaign, helping to raise awareness of the consequences that one punch can have on somebody's life.

To prevent and manage violent incidents by continuing to promote the use of the 'Cardiff model' combining data from the force and local hospitals to highlight areas where violence is more prevalent.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ The licensed economy team continue to robustly target licensed premises and licensees who show disregard to the licensing objectives (prevention of crime and disorder, prevention of public nuisance, public safety, and protection of children from harm).

To support the work of the licensing unit to reduce the harm caused by alcohol and gambling in the community.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ In the past year, the PCC has responded to the 2 local authority public consultations on their gambling policy to ensure they include safeguarding responsibilities to reduce gambling related harm.
- ✓ DCC and partners secured £109,302 from the Safety of Women at Night Fund: to assist Durham City Centre become safer night-time economies and increase feelings of safety for women and girls.
- ✓ Safer Streets funding has also been used in Darlington Town Centre to support the licensing team to provide vulnerability training to bar staff and door staff, as well as issuing Pubwatch radios and to increase membership of Pubwatch.
- ✓ Taxi Marshalls were introduced in Darlington to address a rise in ASB and disorder at taxi ranks.



BY THE NUMBERS:

ALCOHOL

- The North East continues to flag as an outlier in England for alcohol related deaths and consumption, and has had the highest rate for alcohol specific deaths for 6 consecutive years.
- Alcohol is a significant driver of crime and its estimated around a half million violent crimes were committed under the influence of alcohol in England and Wales, accounting for 39% of all violent offences.

- An increase in alcohol related incidents from 28,562 in 2020/2021 to 31,733 in 2021/2022 – an increase of 11%.¹

DRUGS

- The North East also recorded the highest rate of drug deaths by drug misuse – 24% of drug deaths occurring within the last 8 years occurred in the Force area.
- Durham was the first Force in the Country to provide Naloxone kits to high risk individuals (18+) in Custody.
- Drug related incidents decreased from 5,838 in 2020/2021 to 5,280 in 2021/2022 – a reduction of 9.6%.
- Drug related offences have dropped from 1,482 in 2020/2021 to 1,379 in 2021/2022 – a reduction of 7%.



GAMBLING

To consider gambling related harm when investigating crimes.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ The PCC has taken part in awareness training called 'Bet You Can Help', to better understand how gambling addiction is a driver of crime and she raised awareness of the issue with members of the Cleveland and Durham Local Criminal Justice Board.

To encourage those presenting with Gambling related harm to be referred to appropriate support to prevent further harm and crime. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The PCC has taken the time to understand the issues and concerns raised by the current UK gambling regulations and has met with many individuals with lived experience and industry specialists.
- ✓ Together with the PCC for Dorset, the PCC has advocated for tougher UK gambling regulations in order to protect communities and for a levy on gambling companies to fund gambling addiction services.
- ✓ The Offender Management Unit team use a resource directory on COMET which holds details of local organisations such as addiction support groups, North East Gambling Service.

To add additional question to ask victims of domestic assault to specifically include gambling (in addition to drugs/alcohol). We can confirm that:

- ✓ When supporting victims of crime, VCAS conduct a comprehensive needs assessment. Whilst harm caused by gambling was not covered specifically it

has now been included with the needs assessment undertaken with each victim supported.

- ✓ Where gambling is identified or where the victims are concerned about their gambling behaviour then specialist support is sought.

Support the force to train police officers and PCSOs to identify gambling addiction and to understand the links between suicide, mental health, homelessness, domestic abuse, child neglect and gambling.

- ✓ Both DART staff and IOM deliver a joint three hour presentation to new student officers regarding the work of the OMU, the assessment processes and identification of the criminogenic needs and the work of the teams.

To introduce mandatory screening questions around gambling at the point of arrest in custody. We can confirm that:

- ✓ Where harm caused by gambling is identified they are directed towards specialist national live chat facilities or helplines.



BY THE NUMBERS:

- Gambling-related finance problems are associated with a range of crimes including theft, fraud, and domestic violence.
- A research review by Public Health England estimated that gambling-related harms cost society at least £1.27 billion a year and the direct costs to government of criminal activity related to gambling is £162.5 million annually.
- The link between domestic abuse/violence and gambling is recognised in practice, but the UK evidence base behind this is still lacking.
- A Select Committee investigation concluded that one third of a million of us are 'problem gamblers', and that there are 55,000 problem gamblers aged 11 to 16.
- The most socio-economically deprived and disadvantaged groups in England have the lowest gambling participation rates, but the highest levels of harmful gambling.
- 29% of betting shops are in the top 10% of the most deprived postcode areas by crimes.
- 20% of BAME adults who gamble experience some problems associated with their gambling, compared to 12% of white adults.
- 49% of white problem gamblers and 75% from minority ethnic communities say they want treatment, support, or advice.
- Online gambling accounts for 40% of the UK market's 'gross gambling yield' and this amounted to £5.7bn from remote gambling in 2019-20.

ON AVERAGE, ONE 'PROBLEM GAMBLER' COMMITS SUICIDE EVERY DAY.

SAFER ROADS



PRIORITISE AND TACKLE THE AREAS OF HIGHEST HARM AND RISK: SPEEDING, MOBILE PHONES, DRUNK AND DRUG DRIVING AND SEAT BELTS.

To invest in analytical capability necessary to identify risks and threats on the road network. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The Force contributes to an analyst employed by Gateshead Council to produce monthly reports and statistics which are distributed to partners.
- ✓ ANPR is used to pursue suspects of crime, identifying those without insurance and drink/drug drivers. The Road Safety Bureau provide data to inform roads policing operations and tactics.
- ✓ The Force support Operation Tutelage to tackle those driving without insurance through the use of ANPR and have successfully reduced the number of those driving on our roads without insurance.
- ✓ 659 letters were issued following which 66.8% of the offending vehicles were insured after 35 days



To support media strategies that support safer driving.
We can confirm that:

- ✓ Launched the pilot of the Section 59 notices (January 2021) in conjunction with Op Endurance to enable officers to confiscate off road bikes immediately.
- ✓ Supported National Drug Driving Campaign (December 2021) and saw 28 arrested for drink/drug driving.
- ✓ Supported National Speeding Campaign and caught 199 drivers speeding (excluding those dealt with by road safety vans).
- ✓ Supported Project Edward (September 2021) aiming for every day without a road death.
- ✓ Supported National Tyre Safety Campaign (October 2021).
- ✓ Supported National No Insurance Campaign - 22 offences detected
- ✓ Supported National Brake Road Safety Week (November 2021) where we recognised our own Road Safety Hero.
- ✓ Relunched Garage Watch to restrict fuel sales to anyone hiding their identify.
- ✓ Supported Op Tramline which was an operation using an HGV Unit to detect any motoring offences committed by HGV drivers.
- ✓ Supported Northumbria and Durham Police in Op Safe Freight targeting unroadworthy HGV's.

To improve signposting to enable parishes, towns, schools, individuals, and communities to share their concerns about road safety issues in their locality.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ Signposting is currently being carried out through The County Durham and Darlington Road Safety Strategic Partnership Group and other Partnerships.



To work with the community and local elected members of all parties to tackle road safety concerns in our communities.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ 436 Community SpeedWatch campaigns have been conducted during 2021/2022.
- ✓ Community complaints are received via PACT Meetings and reports from various sources relating to speeding, once community speed watch has identified a problem it is referred to Traffic Management Team and an enforcement van is deployed.
- ✓ Two additional Community Speed Watch Vans have been purchased and are used by volunteers and PCSOs in Weardale and Teesdale. The vans were jointly funded by the PCC and local AAP's.
- ✓ New ANPR cameras have been jointly funded by the PCC and AAP's in Teesdale and Weardale. They are used to pursue suspects of local and cross boarder crime, drink/drug drivers and to increase public confidence.

To encourage and develop volunteer action to improve road safety such as community speed watch and junior road safety. We can confirm that:

- ✓ Community Speed Watch implemented in areas of concern.
- ✓ There are 190 Speedwatch Volunteers who are managed by the Neighbourhood Policing Teams.
- ✓ New Community Speed Watch equipment has now been purchased and distributed around the Forces NPT and training given to NPT Officers and Community Speed Watch Volunteers. Old equipment has been given to schools and community groups to encourage Road Safety initiatives.





To enhance support for victims of road traffic accidents and families. We can confirm that:

- ✓ VCAS continue to provide support to victims and families of road traffic crimes. During the past 12 months VCAS has supported 16 families following fatal road traffic collisions.
- ✓ PCC allocated BRAKE £2,000 to support victim's families from fatal car accidents.

Work with the Chief Constable to introduce as soon as practicable Operation Snap and encourage drivers to purchase dash cams. This initiative uses video footage from road users to pursue dangerous drivers

- ✓ The PCC allocated funding to enable the Chief Constable to introduce Operation Snap late 2022.

Continue to invest in Operation Endurance to tackle the menace of off-road bikes and take enforcement action against illegal e-scooters.

- ✓ Durham Constabularies national award winning strategic problem solving plan, Operation Endurance continues to go from strength to strength.
- ✓ There has been an increase in officers to our motorcycle unit and an additional off-road bike has been purchased to assist with extra patrols.
- ✓ An online educational package has been created with our partners to educate our children within schools on road safety. This program's aim is to intervene and educate children before they reach the high risk age of 17-25 years old.

BY THE NUMBERS:

- On average 5 people are killed on our roads every day. Many more suffer life changing injuries. Violent, unexpected and often preventable deaths on our roads devastate victims, their families and our communities.
- Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions in 2020 and the start of 2021 had a significant impact on both traffic levels and collision numbers, with both seeing large decreases. As this means that the financial year 2020-21 is not representative of general road safety trends. The following statistics compare the last pre-Covid year of 2019-20, and the first post-lockdown year of 2021-22 to ensure we are comparing like with like.
- There was a decrease of 19.2% in the total volume of all road traffic collisions from 817 in 2019/2020 to 660 in 2021/2022
- The number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic

collisions remained exactly the same in 2021/2022 as it was in 2019/2020, with 257 fatal and serious injuries in both years.

- County Durham saw one of the highest proportions of total injuries related to drink driving across the North East, with 8% of all reported injuries in 2021/2022 resulting from a collision that involved a suspected drink driver.
- In 2021/2022 there were 35 slight, 18 serious and 2 fatal injuries, which is a small increase from 33 slight, 17 serious and 2 fatal injuries in 2019/2020.

To take enforcement action and educate those who endanger the lives of road users and pedestrians and support tougher sentences for dangerous driving. We can confirm that:

- ✓ The total number of breath tests carried out increased from 3,724 in 2020/2021 to 5,979 in 2021/2022 – an increase of 61%.

- ✓ The number of positive tests increased from 559 in 2020/2021 to 582 in 2021/2022 – an increase of 4%.
- ✓ 297 drink and drug drivers arrested (May/October).
- ✓ 725 vehicles seized off our streets – 123 for no licence and 602 for no insurance.
- ✓ 24 disqualified drivers were caught driving and arrested.
- ✓ The Speed Camera Unit had 20,074 positive speeding detections.

Between April 2021 and March 2022:

- 1,229 drink and drug drivers arrested across County Durham and Darlington roads.
- 1181 vehicles have been seized; 993 uninsured and 188 for no licence.
- Speeding detections: 27,264. 26,058 via speed camera unit and 1,206 by officers issuing tickets.

SAFER COUNTRYSIDE



UNDERSTAND AND RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF RURAL COMMUNITIES AND TAILOR SERVICES ACCORDINGLY.

To tackle fly-tipping in rural areas and invest in and support rural policing to prevent crime. We can confirm that:

- ✓ Durham County Council (DCC) and Darlington Borough Council (DBC) are the leads for fly tipping and the force are exploring ways to improve intelligence sharing and reporting processes. This will help to support both local authorities and ensure the public know where and how to report fly tipping incidents.
- ✓ The Force undertake Intelligence led joint operations with DCC and DBC in hot spot locations in response to fly tipping.

To support the Force and rural communities in their use of new technologies to keep our communities safe. We can confirm that:

- ✓ Durham is seen as best practice for effective use of messaging services and rural volunteers.
- ✓ Two additional PCC and partner funded Community Speedwatch vans have been launched in rural areas.
- ✓ PCC attended two Operation Checkpoint evening patrols, working alongside Rural Watch volunteers and Neighbourhood Policing Teams and saw first hand the advantages of utilising a communication app to share information between volunteers and officers.
- ✓ PCC awarded a grant of £7,500 toward the purchase of ANPR cameras match funded with local Area Action Partnerships (AAP's) to tackle the movements of offenders, stolen machinery, support neighbouring forces and county lines operations.

- ✓ Drones are also to be considered to collect intelligence and help keep rural communities safe.
- ✓ The Force and NFU are installing every new replacement quad bike with a tracker. This compliments Op Lyric locally where the AAP's across Weardale and Teesdale are funding and supporting trackers on quad bikes where there is a hot spot or repeat victim of crime.
- ✓ PCC and the Force have agreed to provide funds to repair the Dot Peen machine to property mark farm machinery.



To strengthen and support Rural Watch.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ Neighbourhood Policing Teams capture and deal with rural incidents as they are received, and ring backs are made to rural suspicious incidents.
- ✓ A local NPT officer has attended a Wildlife Crime Officers Course and now acts as a Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for the Force to oversee wildlife crimes such as raptor persecution, the use of illegal traps and badger baiting.
- ✓ Supported by NPT SPOCs in each locality, Rural Watch is recognised nationally by the NFU and Area Of Natural Beauty (AONB) as a beacon of good practise. NFU cite is key to reducing rural crime in these areas and improving community confidence.
- ✓ Rural Watch secured funding to obtain trail cams/wildlife cameras and a drone.
- ✓ Wear and Tees Rural Watch Trustees have assisted in setting up another Rural Watch board which now incorporates the wider South Durham/Darlington areas.

To support ROSPA campaign targeting rural motorcyclists.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ The force links with ROSPA to run courses along with the Forces Road Policing Unit with the help of funds from the National Driver Offender Retraining Scheme (NDORS) budget.

To increase levels of crime reporting in rural communities.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ Local NPTs have a process of capturing and dealing with rural incidents as they are received. Rural residents are encouraged to sign up to 'Keep in the Know' so Neighbourhood Policing Teams can update them about the latest news and security advice.



To work with the Home Office, Ministry of Justice and Police and Crime Commissioners to facilitate a co-ordinated approach to rural crime. We can confirm that:

- ✓ Regionally a MOU has been agreed regarding the issuing of Community Protection Warnings/Notices. CPW/CPN's are now being used to combat trespass and poaching offences.

To ensure rural police teams are more visible and accessible and there are nominated and visible local officers or PSCOs.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ There are nominated points of contact who are dedicated to rural crimes in neighbourhood areas. In addition, all police officers and PCSOs are given rural crime prevention training.

To encourage effective cross-border collaboration on rural crime and affairs. We can confirm that:

- ✓ Operation Hawkeye aims to provide a cross-border collaborative response to rural crimes to crack down on rural crime through the sharing of intelligence, linked with the use of community protection warnings and notices to deter those who travel to the area.

To work with partner organisations to identify ways to make it easier and quicker to make safety improvements on country roads to address rural speeding and undertake targeted rural safety enforcement.

We can confirm that:

- ✓ Three new Community Speedwatch Vans have now been launched, with matched funding from local AAP and are to be used as part of the speed enforcement program, as well as being utilised by NPT officers and conducting village PACTS.



BY THE NUMBERS:

The Dales which accounts for the majority of the force's rural Beat area remains as one of the safest areas to live and work in County Durham and Darlington.

- Recorded rural crime claims across the force area has seen a year-on-year reduction.
- This annual NFU rural crime report 2021 outlined that Durham was one of a few forces nationally that saw a reduction of related rural crime claims of agricultural vehicles machinery and livestock thefts.
- Between 2020/2021 and 2021/2022, there was a 26% increase in people signing up to Rural Watch: from 1,243 to 1,568 people.
- 5,000 rural residents signed up and are active on WhatsApp group sharing intelligence and prevention measures.

MEASURING PROGRESS AGAINST THE PUBLIC'S POLICE AND CRIME PRIORITIES

As Police and Crime Commissioner, I am committed to enabling local communities to have a voice on policing, victims and community safety matters. I am here to ensure that the community needs are met as effectively as possible, and to improve local relationships by building confidence and restoring trust.

Community engagement is one of the central responsibilities of my role and one I take very seriously. During the last year I have worked hard to be visible and accessible to the communities I serve.

There are four main types of communication which I use to achieve effective and efficient communications with you as resident's, businesses, and stakeholders.

EDUCATE

Proactively educate local communities on the work of my office and continue to grow awareness of the work we do with local partners and organisations.

INVOLVE

Involving our partners in joint releases and campaigns where possible to build relationships and amplify the key messages we need to deliver.

INFORM

I aim to be open and honest, and keep you informed on the activities of my Office, community safety, victims and criminal justice issues.

CONSULT

To allow informed strategic planning and decision making, such as consultation on a proposed increase to the precept. My comms team have engaged with the press and media outlets to publicise our work to the widest audience. Analysis of results have been presented and shared, and I have made informed decisions based upon the consultation outcomes.

I have done this through the following routes:

- One-to-One Private Appointments
- Consultations and Surveys
- Social Media
- Independent Scrutiny Panels
- Press releases
- Website Updates
- Community Meetings
- Community Events
- Consultation with those who have lived experience
- Public Accountability Meetings

FOR EXAMPLE

Public Accountability Meetings

Previously these meetings (where the PCC holds the Chief Constable



and the Force to account for policing in the area) were not open to the public or recorded. As PCC I wanted to address this by being more open, accountable and transparent in the delivery of my duties.

During the last year I have actively encouraged residents of County Durham and Darlington to submit their questions ahead of the Public Accountability Meetings where I hold the Chief Constable and her Executive Team to account for policing in the Force area.

These meetings are recorded to enable residents to see and hear how the accountability process works and the role the PCC plays in delivering an efficient and effective Police Service.

This progressive approach enables me to give residents the opportunity to raise what matters most to them so I can hold the Chief Constable to account on their behalf to make County Durham and Darlington stronger, safer and more resilient to crime, drugs and anti-social behaviour.

Public Accountability Meetings Held

- 26th August 2021- Proposed centralisation of Custody and Investigative Hub
- 22nd December 2021- Op Endurance
- 17th February 2022- Violence Against Women and Girls
- 17th March 2022- Police Uplift Programme

A full recording of these meetings, including all questions and answers are uploaded on YouTube and made available to the public and can be found here:

www.youtube.com/user/DurhamPCC.



POLICING BUDGET AND PRECEPT

Budget

- I had a budget of £135.8 million for 2021/22. Of the revenue budget £133.4 million was delegated to the Chief Constable to fund the operational policing service. The balance of £2.4 million was held by me to fund the office budget, audit and governance, community safety and victims services.
- The cost of my office budget, audit and governance is £1.1 million and the balance was spent on community safety, victim services and reducing reoffending. I also received a government grant of £1.3 million to commission services for victims of crime.
- I set a capital budget of £13.2 million which included investment in buildings, fleet, technology and equipment. This was funded from a combination of government grant, council tax and the proceeds from the sale of assets.

Precept

- Following public consultation, the precept was increased by £10 for £2022/23. This increased the precept to £240.24 for a Band D property in County Durham and Darlington. This is near the national average.

- Given the overall support for an increase from the public consultation, and the need to support policing beyond the constraints of Uplift funding, the increase in precept of £10 per household per year for Band D properties will enable the Force to:
- Increase officer numbers from 1,275 to 1,365 by 31 March 2023
- Recruit and maintain PCSO numbers at 146
- Recruit additional call handlers to respond to 101 and 999 calls
- Introduce Operation Snap to identify and pursue dangerous drivers (by uploading dashcam footage/helmet cam evidence)
- Employ additional IT staff
- Invest IT technology to improve service delivery including online reporting.

The precept levels for a Band D property for local Police & Crime Commissioner areas are:

- National Average £240
- Northumbria £144
- Cumbria £272
- North Yorkshire £271
- Cleveland £266
- North Yorkshire £271



Police Funding 2021/2022

Police Force	Gov't Funding £m	Precept £m	Total £m	Govt Funding %	Precept %	£ raised per 1% Precept £m
Durham	100.5	39.9	140.4	71.60%	28.40%	0.399
Northumbria	263.4	56.8	320.2	82.30%	17.70%	0.568
Cleveland	109	40.9	149.9	72.70%	27.30%	0.409
North Yorkshire	100.6	81.9	182.5	55.10%	44.90%	0.819
Surrey	117.6	144.1	261.7	44.90%	55.10%	1.441

FAIR FUNDING

Fair funding is essential if policing is to deal effectively with the rising complexity in its demand. Any new funding formula should include provision for the fact that policing deals with harm as well as volume, and that policing is required, in the first instance, to prevent crime where possible.

A great deal of policing work is taken up with non-crime related demand issues. County Durham and Darlington have a combination of urban and rural areas, affluence and deprivation which present substantial challenges to providing effective and efficient police response.

Durham like other forces, received its funding from two sources: central government grant and local precept. Durham currently receives 71% of its funding from government, and 29% from precept.

The ability to raise funding through the local precept is limited by the high proportion of households in the force area that fall into the Council Tax Band A category. This means that 1% rise in precept does not have

the same impact as our neighbouring force in North Yorkshire and the likes of Surrey (which raises the highest percentage of total funding through local precept).

The ability to raise local precept at a consistent rate across the county is a major factor when considering the overall funding distribution of police grants nationally. This underpins the need for a fair funding formula and adequate overall level of grant.

I have real concerns about the Government's proposals to introduce a new funding formula and its likely impact on areas such as ours with lower population growth but deep-rooted socio-economic problems such as those we face locally.

As PCC I will continue to push for fair settlements to help the local police service address the rising costs of energy and fuel costs, ICT cost increases, and other service led pressures due to inflation.

Making the communities of County Durham and Darlington safer, stronger and more resilient to crime, drugs and anti-social behaviour.



THE POLICE UPLIFT PROGRAMME

137 Police Officers, 27 PCSOs and 28 call handlers were added to the Force by March 2022.

The Police Uplift Programme (PUP) aims to recruit 20,000 new officers by March 2023. Durham's share of this is 226 additional officers. This does not include officers who retire and are replaced as part of normal business.

I am committed to ensuring the Force continue Attraction, Recruitment, Retention and Progression (ARRP) across all areas of protected characteristics to attract, develop, progress and retain a diverse workforce which is representative of the communities we serve in line with the National Workforce Representation Toolkit.

As PCC I am committed to ensuring the Force continue to deliver on their part in the governments Police Uplift Programme. I am proud of

the success we have achieved and will continue to maintain personal oversight over recruitment plans.

The additional Officers will help me to deliver my Police and Crime Plan and will help improve life for local people, reduce their risk and fear of crime, and increase their confidence in reporting crime.

Our success in attracting more recruits than we had been tasked by the government has put us in a strong position to deliver on our Plan. Going forward I will be focused on attracting, developing and retaining a diverse workforce to ensure the communities of County Durham and Darlington feel safer, stronger and more resilient to crime, drugs and anti-social behaviour.



SERVICES FOR VICTIMS AND GRANT FUNDING

Maximising Funding Opportunities

I have encouraged the continuation of partnership funding bids such as the Safer Streets Fund which has successfully secured substantial sums for improvements in community safety in parts of County Durham and Darlington.

This year, in addition to the annual Ministry of Justice (MoJ) Victims Grant, my team secured an extra £600,000 from the MoJ to support those who have suffered the worst abuse and violence (DA/SV) and £300,000 to train professionals to recognise signs of domestic abuse and address the behaviour of perpetrators of that crime.

Safer Streets Fund

In the past year, work got fully underway to deliver the £1,191,705 of funding the PCC secured from the Home Office's Safer Streets fund to improve community safety.

My Office worked in partnership with Durham Police, Durham County Council, and Darlington Borough Council to develop three bids. All were successful, securing over £1m in funding for three at-risk areas in the force area. They were:



Location	Purpose of Funding	Safer Streets
Darlington	To design and deliver local crime prevention plans, with the outcome of reducing acquisitive crimes through situational prevention	£266,630
Darlington	Deliver solutions to improve safety in public places for all, with a particular focus on tackling VAWG crimes and reducing the fear of these crimes occurring in public areas	£497,513
Horden, County Durham	To design and deliver local crime prevention plans with the outcome of reducing acquisitive crimes through situational prevention	£427,562



Commissioning Strategy

My commissioning strategy sets out how I commission services to support the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan.

Commissioning forms a crucial part of establishing, maintaining and improving services to help victims of crime cope and recover, prevent crime and anti-social behaviour and keep communities safe.

Commissioning involves understanding where gaps exist and what services are necessary, working in partnership to ensure they are delivered well and evaluating their effectiveness.

My preferred approach is to co-commission services with a shared service provider which supports victims of domestic abuse and includes an overarching service that assesses the needs of victims of crime and refers them to support agencies.

Victims Services

PCC's are responsible for commissioning local services to support victims of crime. To help with this I receive an annual grant from the Ministry of

Justice. I currently commission several specialist services to support young victims of crime, victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence as well as an overarching service that any victims of crime can receive support from.

Support from these services is available even if a victim chooses not to report the crime to the police.

In 2021/2022 I allocated £592,000 to support victims of domestic abuse, £327,000 to support victims of sexual violence and £351,000 to support overarching services that assess the needs of victims of crime.

Last year I took the decision to bring the Victim Care & Advice Service and Community Peer Mentor Service in house. This transition was completed in March 2022 to improve services for the people the services support, particularly victims of crime and ASB, whilst improving efficiency, effectiveness and value for money.

The service to provide support for those who suffer sexual violence was put out to tender and the successful service provider will provide victims with a cohesive and effective service tailored to their needs



ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

PCCs have a critical role to play in ensuring that their forces, commissioned services and offices are employing environmentally friendly and sustainable practices. Concern about climate change is an important issue for the public and this gives PCCs a strong mandate as the public's champion to ensure that policing is striving to meet the challenges of climate change and taking steps to mitigate the risks that it poses.

The College of Policing has identified that climate change is one of the top ten most significant challenges for policing over the next ten years. As the APCC national portfolio lead for Environment and Sustainability I sit on the strategic board that is overseeing this important programme of work.

I am keen to see the four nations of UK policing working together on this critical issue and to facilitate opportunities to enable us to learn from each other. We all need to develop sustainable fleet, that prepare policing for the 2030 ban on the sale of new petrol and diesel cars, create wider benefits for local communities through social value programmes and practices and ensure that estates, both new and old are developed in an environmentally friendly and sustainable manner.

Emergency Services Environment and Sustainability Group

My Office is a member of The Emergency Services Environment and Sustainability Group (ESESG) which includes members from UK Police Forces, Fire and Rescue Services, Ambulance Services and other Emergency services who meet to share best practice and discuss emerging technologies, government policy and legislative requirements.

They have developed a Sustainability Charter to enable members to pledge their support to work toward a set of common goals and aspirations embed sustainability within their own organisations and achieve national and international sustainability objectives.

It will also help identify positive effects on sustainability within communities and manage any negative effect and risks.

By signing this Charter I recognised that the Force as an emergency service has the potential to affect the local and global environment, society and the wider economy and that climate change and global trends will continue to have an impact on the demands placed upon our emergency services.

Fleet

The Force understand they need to move away from internal combustion engine vehicles but recognise the limited suitability of electric vehicles for operational policing (due to demands of police driving).

The development of a local infrastructure for charging requires substantial investment and is something the I have been encouraging in my national role as an APCC environment and sustainability lead.





Estate

From April 2022 I will cease to receive funding towards capital investment or upkeep for buildings, nor for technology, or fleet. This means that any money I choose to spend on assets needs to be funded from council tax and prioritised against all other competing demands for money.

Prior to this financial year I was receiving approx. £0.1m per year capital grant from the Home Office, however this did not cover the amount of money needed to maintain the estate or the necessary investment in technology or fleet.

Pre- austerity in 2010, the level of capital grant received was approx. £1.3m per year. This means that the grant to invest in our public assets has reduced by over 100%, before placing a significant pressure on existing Police budgets.

As PCC I will need to review the estates strategies to refresh our thinking, I will work with other PCC's to share knowledge and good practice and carry out benchmarking, but this will need investment.

Social Value

Upon my appointment I took the decision to include social value principles in all my Office and Force procurement policies and processes to encourage the awarding of contracts for goods and services to organisations based in County Durham and Darlington and the North East Region.

Social value criteria forms 10% or more of scoring for the award of high value contracts such as construction and in the provision of custody provision and investigative hub.

By attributing a 10% weighting to social value criteria the Force was the first police service in the UK to utilise the Blue Light Commercial Social Value Toolkit which has been designed to help current and future suppliers of police forces to develop action plans to make positive impact on the local environment and the economy.



Making the communities of County Durham and Darlington safer, stronger and more resilient to crime, drugs and anti-social behaviour.





Our ambitious plans to centralise custody provision, along with state-of-the-art investigative hub, has the potential to deliver £6M in social value.

The Durham Gate facility represents the largest-ever investment undertaken by the Force and it's already boosting local businesses, jobs and the economy.

Led by local contractor Tilbury Douglas, the development is delivering on its social value commitments. Among the team are two Quantity Surveyor Apprentices and work is underway to facilitate student work placements and training opportunities.

Project co-ordinators are also working with the charity Changing Lives, supporting vulnerable people to find work and training.

It's estimated £7.7 M will be spent with small to medium enterprises in line with the new custody and investigative hub build and at least £1.9M will be spent in the local supply chain.

In recognition of this ground-breaking work my office was asked to pilot a national project 'Go 4 Grow' with construction Innovation Hub, with the development of a Construction Value Toolkit to support more businesses to bid for public contracts and introduce social value initiatives.

County Durham Pound

My Office is an active member of the 'County Durham Pound' project and I am a signatory to the partners Statement of Intent. A core aim is to drive social, economic, and environmental benefits, known as 'social value'.

A core objective of the project is for organisations to collaborate and learn from each other, to generate positive outcomes for the people and places that would benefit the most from them.

Darlington Anchor Network

My Office is also an active member of the Darlington Anchor Network (the delivery arm of the Public Service Executive Group) which is exploring the extent to which the partners can increase levels of spend with local organisations and small to medium sized enterprises.



National Influence

At a national level, I jointly chair the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners Environment and Sustainability portfolio with PCC for Suffolk and I am a member of the BlueLight Commercial Board. My Office is also represented on the National Police Transport and Charging Infrastructure Group and the Modern Slavery Transparency in Supply Chain (TISC) Advisory Group.

Going forward I will continue to advocate getting the maximum social value benefits from any high value procurement project, utilising the BlueLight Commercial business baseline to drive this work forward.

Working with you and for you, to make the communities of County Durham and Darlington safer, stronger and more resilient to crime, drugs and anti-social behaviour.







HERE TO HELP

Police :

Call: 101 for non emergencies | 101 online chat durham.police.uk | Call: 999 for emergencies

Crimestoppers :

Call: 0800 555 111 | crimestoppers-uk.org

Fraud :

Call: 0300 123 2040 action fraud | actionfraud.police.uk | friendsagainstscams.org.uk
nebrcentre.co.uk | enquiries@nebrcentre.co.uk

Durham County Council :

Call: 03000 260 000 | doitonline.durham.gov.uk

Darlington Borough Council :

Call: 01325 406 999 | customerservices@darlington.gov.uk

Addiction services :

Call: 03000 266 666 | codurhamdrugalcoholrecovery.co.uk

Call: 01325 809 810 | withyou.darlington@nhs.net

Victims support :

Call: 0800 138 2020 | victimcare@durham-pcc.gov.uk



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2021/22

Rev19Jan23