



**Lancashire  
Constabulary**  
police and communities together



# Rural Policing

Delivery Plan 2013-2018

# Statement of intent



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**Policing rural communities presents a unique challenge. Lancashire Constabulary is responsible for the policing of an area of almost 2000 square miles, of which 74% is classed as rural. The Constabulary recognise that whilst our rural communities represent 9% of the population of Lancashire they have diverse needs and it is critical that we deliver a high quality of service, whilst striking the balance of resourcing to risk.**

Lancashire Constabulary will engage with communities and seek to focus on the issues that matter. We will utilise our full range of engagement options in order to offer a variety of methods to liaise with communities, be this through community events, the use of social media, volunteers, watch schemes or the local Neighbourhood Policing Team.

We will educate our officers to enhance their understanding of rural issues through continuous professional development and utilise a problem solving approach to tackle the issues that arise. We will aspire to get it right first time, at the first point of contact, by ensuring our staff are cognisant of the impact of rural crime on our communities.

We will continue to disrupt and reduce rural crime and bring those criminals intent on doing harm to our rural communities to justice through our Operation Firecrest targeted activity.

We will continually assess the risk and threat to our communities and ensure resources are allocated appropriately. Intelligence gathering remains a priority to ensure our assessments are appropriate and our assets deployed to maximum effect in order to

provide the best value for money. We will endeavour to obtain the best intelligence product at a local, county and national level. In using the National Decision Model we will look to mitigate risk and threat and deliver safe communities.

This delivery plan aims to provide the framework for a concise and effective approach to deliver our statement of intent and to enhance the current quality work already provided to our rural communities.

## Key Strands to Delivery

- **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**
- **THE INTELLIGENCE CYCLE**
- **PREVENTION AND REDUCTION OF CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

# How we will deliver



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## Community Engagement

### Community Profiling

Neighbourhood policing teams (NHP) will understand their communities by applying local knowledge backed up by evidenced based research, such as Mosaic and census data.

NHP teams should then seek to have an engagement mechanism for each of the key aspects highlighted. This will include the use of Key Individual Networks (KINs) and other stakeholders who can be utilised to act as a conduit for communication with the rural communities.

### In the Know

NHP teams will continue to deliver relevant and appropriate key messages by text and email, tailoring it to the interest of the recipient. The system will be used to update communities on activity, highlight crime issues, appeal for information and feedback our actions. Focus will continue on marketing the scheme and ensuring levels of sign up are maintained. The quality of messaging and consistency of approach will be monitored to maximise the use of the public as our eyes and ears.



### Social Media

The Constabulary recognises social media as a growth area for engagement giving us the ability to maintain visibility and provide the most up to date information to the public. We have listened and understand that face to face meetings aren't always the best way to communicate. Social media will give us a platform to a wider audience. The use of methods such as Facebook and Twitter have been embraced and are to be imbedded into everyday use by NHP. We will ensure that there is a consistency of provision.



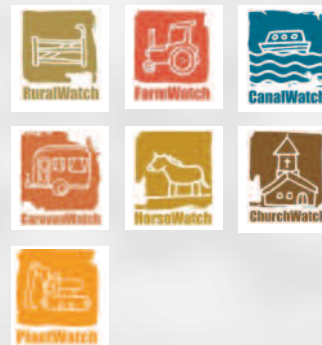
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### Watch Schemes

Watch Schemes have proved invaluable in providing and receiving information to many residents in communities. Emphasis will remain on providing bespoke schemes determined by the need of the community such as Farm Watch, Horse Watch, and Canal Watch. We will also continue our partnership with the established Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.



### Citizens in Policing

As part of the Constabulary's recognition of adding value through citizens in policing, volunteers will play an important role in delivering this plan.

Community volunteers will be recruited with specific rural issues in mind. They will act as ambassadors for the Constabulary, intelligence gatherers, and where necessary critical friends. They will help to highlight the current priorities facing rural communities and deliver information to the same.

The Special Constabulary will be utilised to bolster the prevention and reduction of crime and ASB.

### Public Events

The Constabulary will continue to engage with communities at events and meetings.

We will resource events with significant footfall and seize the opportunity to register the public for ITK.

We will continue to participate in PACT and community meetings where there remains a demand.

Building on the success of previous rural crime conferences, we will host a wildlife crime conference. This will be done to engage key stakeholders and rural communities to showcase our current activity.

# How we will deliver



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## The Intelligence Cycle

### Partner Intelligence

We will aim to enhance our own intelligence gathering processes by information sharing with other statutory agencies, as well as other public and private bodies such as United Utilities and the Environment Agency. We will also include those from the third sector such as charities including the RSPCA and RSPB.

This will be managed by the current Genga panel governed by SOCU.



### Community Intelligence

We will identify our intelligence gaps and task our sources to close them.

We will continue to enhance the current level of community intelligence by ensuring our NHP teams have key contacts in each of their communities as outlined by community profiling (see community engagement above).

We will continue to market ITK and social media use as a method to advertise what information we require with the appropriate means to feedback that information to us e.g. Crimestoppers.

We will increase the use of volunteers selected to represent the makeup of the community as a tool to obtain information.

We will continue to utilise current intelligence gathering techniques such as open source scanning and analytical intelligence products to provide us with the best information to work from.



### Cross Border/Level Two Intelligence

We will maintain and ensure we scope all areas for intelligence and liaise with other local police forces to provide the best intelligence product enabling us to effectively target and disrupt organised crime gangs.

Our close links with the National Wildlife Crime Unit will be maintained in order to monitor national and local trends in wildlife crime.

The regular intelligence and support we obtain from ACPO Vehicle Crime Intelligence Service (AVCIS) will be acted upon.

The National Decision Model will be the process for assessing the work risk and acting upon the intelligence we receive.



# How we will deliver



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## Reduction and Prevention of Crime and Anti-social Behaviour

### Prevention Schemes

Target hardening of premises and property is paramount to achieving a reduction in crime. By making property as uninviting as possible for offenders this will disrupt their activity. We will assist through our NHPTs, identifying vulnerable premises and people, offering support and advice to residents and businesses.

We will utilise a problem solving approach to design out the causes of crime and ASB with the use of problem oriented partnerships (P.O.P).

The Constabulary will continue to deliver its flagship rural crime operation, Operation Firecrest, working closely with partners and the third sector. We will mobilise force resources dedicating them to the prevention and disruption of rural crime. We will also maintain our commitment to Operation Tornado focusing on the reduction of metal theft. We will support cross border operations, producing simultaneous targeting by neighbouring forces to ensure there is nowhere for our offenders to turn.

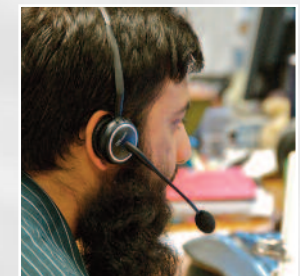
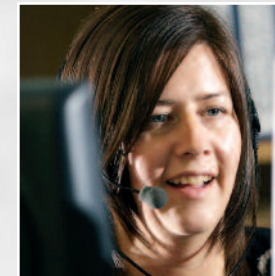
### Continuous Professional Development Events

We recognise it is critical to our success that our staff understand issues faced by rural communities, and that they are equipped to deal with them.

Continuous Professional Development (C.P.D) training events will continue to be held to develop and to increase knowledge and confidence in dealing with all aspects of rural crime. We will utilise the expertise and knowledge of our communities and partners to help deliver bespoke quality training.

### Getting It Right First Time

Getting it right at the first point of contact is of the utmost importance for rural crime and ASB. These incidents are regularly committed in remote locations. We must ensure that our Contact Management staff and officers understand the impact of such incidents on communities and how confidence is adversely affected if we do not apportion the correct response in terms of deployment, resources and timeliness. Staff will be provided with sufficient knowledge via C.P.D to deal with such incidents. We will deploy resources appropriately and timely utilising the Automatic Resource Location System (ARLS) in order to provide the best quality of service to our customers. We will ensure through Systems Thinking methodology, that we strive to get it right first time, every time.



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## Reduction and Prevention of Crime and Anti-social Behaviour

### SMT and Rural Crime SPOCs

Each Basic Command Unit will have its own Single Point of Contact for rural crime. These officers will be supported by local divisional contacts with a depth of knowledge surrounding the diverse world of rural crime. The officers will be available for both staff and the public to advise on legislation, assist prosecutions and provide prevention and reduction tactics.

The role, quantity and quality of resources will be continually assessed to ensure the Constabulary are matching the current demand, risk and threat to rural acquisitive and wildlife crime.



### Organised Crime Group Targeting

The high value theft of property such as tractors, farm machinery, and fuel are being committed on an organised scale and evidence has highlighted that property is often destined for foreign countries. Organised crime groups will be mapped and monitored by both Force and local intelligence units. Actions will be tasked to the most appropriate resource for disruption and investigation into their criminal activity. This will incorporate the use of specialist departments such as Ports Unit and the Serious and Organised Crime Unit.

**Behind Bars**

### Partnerships

We will continue the current strong partnership working with organisations such as CESAR, TRACKER, and B.T Openreach in order to help prevent and detect crime.

We will information share and liaise with partner agencies to aid the rehabilitation of offenders.

We will utilise other organisations and stakeholders to gain the best intelligence product available to determine the level of risk and threat to our communities and provide the appropriate resource to the problem.

We will work with partners to harness their expertise in areas such as wildlife crime in order to prevent and reduce offences and to assist in prosecuting those intent on committing crime.

