

LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME

ANNUAL REPORT

2021 – 2022





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FOREWORD

FROM THE COMMISSIONER

It has been a busy first year in office, leading the fight against crime and setting the policing priorities as Lancashire’s Police and Crime Commissioner. I am grateful for the support I have received, not only from Lancashire residents but also from the Chief Constable, officers and staff within the force and our partners across the county who have all helped in taking the fight to criminals.



Publishing my first annual report allows me to share the work that has gone on to deliver the priorities I set out in my **Police and Crime Plan** for Lancashire and to demonstrate the strides we have made in taking the fight to criminals.

There have been some key achievements during my first year in office, not least the reopening of police stations to the public ensuring that residents have access to a police front counter in each and every borough of Lancashire – a key election promise I have delivered on.

I’ve made tackling anti-social behaviour a priority in my Police and Crime and Crime Plan and, together with the Constabulary and our partners we are putting long term solutions in place to address this issue.

We have already recruited an additional 210 new officers and a new dedicated anti-social behaviour problem solving unit is being established within the force. Almost every area of

Lancashire now has a dedicated neighbourhood policing team working alongside local response officers.

Dismantling and disrupting organised crime is another key priority in my plan for Lancashire. I have pledged to take the fight to criminals and in response, the Chief Constable has launched Operation Vanquish to send a clear message to criminals – we are coming to get you.

Arrests involving members of organised crime gangs are up by over 50% and we have taken a more aggressive approach to asset seizures ensuring that we take away criminal’s ill-gotten gains and use them to reinvest in local communities.

I’ve launched my £5m Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods fund which uses proceeds of crime to support projects across Lancashire to make local communities safer and to deter criminals.

I am fully committed to tackling domestic abuse and sexual violence in our county.

I’ve invested in the establishment of a specialist rape and serious sexual offences team which sees 40+ new officers joining the force to bolster the Constabulary’s response to this issue, to bring offenders to justice and to achieve better outcomes for victims.

Ensuring that victims of domestic abuse and serious sexual offences receive expert support is equally important and I have commissioned Lancashire Victim Service to provide specialist, face to face support to victims and survivors.

Another key issue that residents raise with me time and time again is burglary and robbery. My investment in new officers and neighbourhood policing teams over the past year will make a real difference in this area and increase the Constabulary’s capacity to tackle this type of crime. I will be holding the Chief Constable to account for delivering a reduction in the number of residential burglary and robbery offences.

I’ve also made targeting dangerous drivers a priority and my Deputy PCC Andy Pratt MBE now chairs the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership. A full review of the Partnership is underway, and the findings will inform changes to tackle road safety issues more effectively. Encouragingly we’ve already seen huge success with the launch of Op Snap which asks drivers to submit dashcam footage of incidents on our roads directly to the police through their website.

It’s been a busy and exciting first year in office and I have spent a lot of time with officers, speaking to local residents and meeting with partners to truly understand the issues they face and how I can direct resources to support the Constabulary to deliver the best possible policing service across Lancashire.

I’ve initiated the largest investment in the Constabulary in living memory and I am pleased to say that Lancashire will continue to see improvements to policing to ensure residents receive the policing service they deserve.



Andrew Snowden
Lancashire Police
and Crime Commissioner

“I’ve made tackling anti-social behaviour a priority in my Police and Crime and Crime Plan and, together with the Constabulary and our partners we are putting long term solutions in place to address this issue.”

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

I am incredibly proud and honoured to be the Chief Constable of Lancashire Constabulary and, along with my Chief Officer colleagues, to be leading a force of committed, hardworking, motivated and professional police officers and police staff.

The last 12 months have seen some changes in our Chief Officer Team with Deputy Chief Constable Sacha Hatchett joining us from North Wales Police and Chief Operating Officer Gillian Routledge from Durham Constabulary.

My first priority on joining just over 12 months ago was to engage directly with officers and staff across the force to understand the challenges they face and the opportunities available. This interaction also ensured staff were able to directly inform our **Plan on a Page**, which clearly articulates our collective priorities over the coming years, focused on our people, our partnerships, our resources and our communities. Our Plan directly reflects many of the priorities outlined in the PCC's Police and Crime Plan and therefore reflects our joint ambition to lead the fight against crime and protect the safety of our communities.

My first end of year assessment (up to March 2022) has allowed me to reflect on some fantastic achievements that the Force has delivered. These include

a 4% reduction in ASB, a 33% reduction in burglaries and a 15% reduction in casualties on our roads. Divisional Commanders have been re-introduced within our divisions to ensure we have clear local ownership, focus and accountability for our performance and the quality of service we provide to our communities. They also provide a clear point of contact for our key partners to further enhance partnership working with our public, private and third sector colleagues.

The Constabulary has already delivered service improvements which maximise the use of our skilled and specialist resources including the introduction of dedicated Rape and Serious Sexual Offences teams, the reopening of local front counters and enhancements in our crime recording processes.

The increase of 210 officers included 152 through the national Police Uplift Programme and 58 officers funded through the precept. This has provided us with additional resources to reduce crime and further improve our

outcomes, supporting investment in Neighbourhood Policing and other frontline roles and reflecting the priorities in our Plan on a Page. Aligned to the capital investment programme recently approved by the PCC, this puts the force in a fantastic position to ensure we have both the resources and necessary technology to provide a high quality of service to our communities.



Chris Rowley
Chief Constable
Lancashire



“The Force has already delivered service improvements which maximise the use of our skilled and specialist resources including the introduction of dedicated Rape and Serious Sexual Offences teams, the reopening of local front counters and enhancements in our crime recording processes.”

YEAR IN HIGHLIGHTS



APRIL 2021

- New Chief Constable Chris Rowley joins Lancashire Constabulary



JUNE 2021

- Andy Pratt MBE is announced as Deputy PCC
- Commissioner visits Kirkham to talk supporting policing in Fylde



AUGUST 2021

- Commissioner welcomes Policing Minister Kit Malthouse to Lancashire
- PCC meets South Ribble MP to discuss anti-social behaviour



OCTOBER 2021

- Leyland police station reopens to the public
- Cash seized from criminals funds new crime fighting kit



DECEMBER 2021

- Commissioner launches his Fighting Crime Plan for Lancashire
- £11m investment for Lancashire through Uplift Programme
- Kirkham front counter reopened to the public



FEBRUARY 2022

- Commissioner funds over 40 new officers to tackle rape and sexual assault
- 57% increase in crime arrests

2021 2022

MAY 2021

- Andrew Snowden is elected Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire
- £2.1 million funding boost for victims of crime in Lancashire



JULY 2021

- £345k funding boost secured to tackle domestic abuse
- County wide survey launched to inform Police and Crime Plan



SEPTEMBER 2021

- Clitheroe front counter reopens to the public
- New dedicated neighbourhood policing team and double the number of officers for Rossendale



NOVEMBER 2021

- Peace vigil and civic ceremony to celebrate the Knife Angel's arrival in Lancashire
- Over 950 knives taken off streets and 77 arrests in anti-knife crime week



JANUARY 2022

- Op Vanquish delivers results in line with Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan
- Commissioner supports launch of StreetSafe tool



MARCH 2022

- Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund launches
- 700k investment in rural crime welcomed on visit to Cockerham



210
ADDITIONAL OFFICERS
FOR LANCASHIRE

210

ADDITIONAL OFFICERS FOR LANCASHIRE

50%

INCREASE IN ARRESTS INVOLVING ORGANISED CRIME

40+

NEW OFFICERS TO CREATE DEDICATED RAPE AND SERIOUS SEXUAL OFFENCES TEAM

5000+

VEHICLES SEIZED

3

POLICE STATIONS REOPENED TO THE PUBLIC

£3.9m

TO SUPPORT VICTIMS AND VULNERABLE PEOPLE

700k

INVESTMENT IN RURAL POLICING

£5m

SAFER LANCASHIRE NEIGHBOURHOODS FUND LAUNCHED





POLICE & CRIME PLAN PROGRESS

GETTING TOUGH ON ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Getting tough on anti-social behaviour is the first priority in my Police and Crime Plan and it's an issue that is consistently raised by residents with the Constabulary and myself.

I set out a number of key commitments to ensure that Lancashire residents will see positive changes in policing anti-social behaviour across the county and I will continue to work closely with the Constabulary and our partners to ensure we deliver improvements.

2021/22 Highlights

Neighbourhood Policing

- The Constabulary have consistently met and exceeded recruitment targets with 210 new officers already recruited in 2021/22 as part of an overall increase of more than 600 officers owing to the Police Uplift Programme and money raised locally through the council tax precept.
- Clitheroe, Leyland and Kirkham police stations have reopened their front counters to the public with Waterfoot due to follow as part of my commitment to ensure that every Borough area of Lancashire has a dedicated front counter for residents to speak to officers, raise concerns

or report crime. This is in addition to new police bases across the county.

- We have ended the hybrid policing model in Rossendale and Fylde to ensure that these areas have dedicated neighbourhood policing teams working alongside local response teams ending the previous approach which meant officers had to deliver both.
- Thanks to the number of new officers joining the Constabulary, taskforces have been strengthened across the county with additional investment of over £700k going into rural taskforces ensuring that both urban and rural areas receive the policing service they deserve.

Enforcement and Problem Solving

- I provided funding to the Constabulary to establish a problem oriented policing command to tackle anti-social behaviour in our county. Work is underway to set up this

specialist unit within the force to combat ASB and I'll be sharing more about this during my second year in office.

Prevention

- In March 2022 I launched my Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods Fund, paid for, in part, by money seized from criminals. The fund supports community projects and innovative neighbourhood schemes that support the priorities in my Police and Crime Plan and deliver on my pledge to lead the fight against crime. Grants of between £1K and £10k are available to community safety partners or community groups and projects.
- Publicising police activity and positive outcomes plays a major part, not only in public reassurance but also in sending a clear message to criminals. This is why I have regularly joined policing operations over the past year sharing information with members of the public, partners and

244

CIVIL ORDERS ISSUED TO
TARGET ASB HOTSPOT
LOCATIONS

63k

COMMUNITY SURVEYS
COMPLETED IDENTIFYING
LOCAL PRIORITY ISSUES

4%

REDUCTION ANTI-SOCIAL
BEHAVIOUR INCIDENTS



key stakeholders through my communication channels as well as the Constabulary channels.

- My Office is represented at Community Safety Partnership (CSPs) meetings across Lancashire. Anti-social behaviour can't be resolved through policing alone and the CSPs bring together a number of agencies including housing associations, local councils, Lancashire Fire and Rescue among others to tackle issues together.

Scrutiny

- I regularly meet with the Chief Constable to hold him to account against progress in tackling anti-social behaviour. Details of my scrutiny meetings are regularly shared on my website and social media channels including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to ensure transparency and give residents, partners and stakeholders the opportunity to keep track of the challenges I put to the Chief Constable and the progress made.

“ We know anti-social behaviour is a concern for local communities and action is ongoing to tackle the issue. That includes stepping up patrols in affected areas and working with local organisations like the council to address the problem. I would urge anyone with any information on anti-social behaviour to speak to a member of the local policing team so we can continue to take action. ”

T/CHIEF INSPECTOR SCOTT BOAST, LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY

Support for victims - Lancashire Victim Services

The problem: Harassment from neighbours based on gender identity.

Support provided: Safety planning, housing advocacy, emotional support, referral to a multi-agency conference, police delivered an engagement session in the local school to provide education around the issue.

The outcome: ASB has almost stopped entirely and the victim's feelings of wellbeing, safety and ability to cope have all improved. The housing association is helping the client to move for a fresh start.

DISRUPTING AND DISMANTLING ORGANISED CRIME

Since becoming Commissioner, I have been on many operations that target members of criminal gangs as the Constabulary make life increasingly difficult for people involved in organised crime in Lancashire.

Tackling a range of offences from courier fraud to exploitation and drugs operations I have joined teams up and down the county, putting doors through, making arrests, and seizing ill-gotten gains.

Removing dangerous weapons and creating a hostile environment for criminals also helps address the serious violence that so often accompanies criminal gangs and feeds into the work of partners through the Lancashire Violence Reduction Network (VRN) amongst others.

The activity of criminal gangs all too often spills over into our communities in a variety of ways, including burglary and robbery to feed habits, dangerous use of our roads when supplying county lines gangs and countless others. This means that disrupting and dismantling criminal gangs also supports the delivery of my other priorities and the overall fight against crime.

2021/22 Highlights

Operation Vanquish

In December 2021, Lancashire Constabulary launched Operation Vanquish, aimed at getting tough on offenders and taking the fight to criminals, forming a key response to my Police and Crime Plan priorities and what I expect the force to deliver. This has seen focused weeks of action going after organised crime gangs, knocking doors in, making arrests, and seizing assets and cash.

We are sending the clear message to criminals and those exploiting vulnerable people that we know who they are, we'll put them behind bars, seize their assets and use the money from them to make our streets safer.

Other operations supporting the disruption of organised crime included Project ADDER, which tackles drug dealing, drug misuse and offending, Operation Venetic and others in collaboration with the National Crime Agency and Northwest Regional Organised Crime Unit (NW ROCU).

NW ROCU provides specialist capabilities to tackle serious and organised crime that crosses borders in the region.

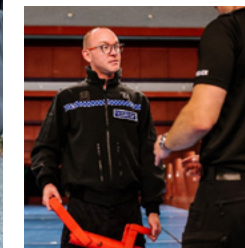
The unit is a collaboration between the six North West Police Forces in Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside and North Wales.

Forced entry equipment

Last year I invested in additional, state-of-the-art forced entry equipment, utilising cash seized from criminals. This expanded the existing capability and provided an alternative method of entry – with equipment including high powered grinders and cutters.

During raids as part of Op Vanquish, officers utilised forced entry equipment that I have funded to increase the Constabulary's capabilities – so I welcomed the opportunity to join officers see it in use first-hand as they put through multiple doors.

This allows more officers to be trained in and able to utilise the equipment. I joined a training session, hearing how important



“Through my Office, I have supported a regional ‘Eyes Open’ campaign to help raise awareness of the issue and encourage reporting.”

these tactics are and seeing the variety of different situations they're used in, before trying the equipment for myself.

Disrupting fraud gangs and supporting victims

Criminal gangs exploit people in a number of ways – a focus is often on the drugs gangs that make life misery for people across Lancashire, but the Constabulary, alongside partners across the region and nationally, are cracking down on OCGs of all types, with a major growth area being around fraud.

Partnership working is as critical as ever when dismantling fraud gangs due to them often not being based partly or fully in the county. An example was an operation I joined in Blackburn that targeted a courier fraud gang, with victims across the UK.

Support for victims of fraud here in Lancashire who need to deal with the mental and financial aftermath is also a key part of the work being done – I met a victim of fraud in the Morecambe area and talked to her about the support she's received since.

Visiting NW ROCU

I visited the Regional Organised Crime Unit (ROCU) to strengthen links with the team covering serious crime across the Northwest and supporting the work of individual forces including Lancashire.

County Lines

Tackling County Lines, and the supply gangs responsible for high levels of violence, exploitation and abuse of vulnerable adults and children, is a priority for Lancashire and we continue to work closely with NWROCU to in our response to identifying victims and criminals and taking effective action where required.

In October 2021 45 arrests were made and over £77,000 was seized from suspected criminal gangs as part of a dedicated national intensification week of action that saw co-ordinated action against county line offenders and safeguarding victims.

Lancashire remains part of the national multi-agency County Lines coordination centre that works to develop the national intelligence picture, prioritise action against the most serious offenders, and engage with partners across government, including in the health, welfare and education spheres, to tackle the wider issues.

Through my Office, I have supported a regional 'Eyes Open' campaign to help raise awareness of the issue and encourage reporting.

“ We have prioritised our approach to tackling county lines over the last few years putting our efforts into identifying those responsible as well as working with our partners to drive awareness in schools and to identify those vulnerable to this type of exploitation and implement effective safeguarding. We are committed to working alongside our partners and other forces to close down these lines, protect vulnerable people and remove those who exploit them from our streets.

We will continue working in this way to disrupt anyone believed to be involved in county lines and will use all available powers to secure significant sentences against those who are responsible, using not just legislation around drug supply but newer legislation aimed at those involved in trafficking of children. Our intention is to make Lancashire an uncomfortable place for these criminals to operate.”

FORCE LEAD FOR COUNTY LINES AT LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY,
DETECTIVE SUPERINTENDENT BECKY SMITH

50%

**INCREASE IN SERIOUS
AND ORGANISED
CRIME RELATED
ARRESTS**

620

**YEARS IN PRISON
FOR SERIOUS AND
ORGANISED CRIME
OFFENDERS**

77k

**SEIZED FROM
SUSPECTED CRIMINAL
GANGS DURING ONE
WEEK OF ACTION**

9k

**STOP & SEARCHES
CARRIED OUT**

61

**SERIOUS AND
ORGANISED CRIME
RELATED PREVENTION
ORDERS GENERATED**

850

**KNIVES COLLECTED
DURING ONE WEEK
OF OPERATION
SCEPTRE**

Modern Slavery

The Pan Lancashire Anti-Slavery Partnership (PLASP) which I contribute to, has further grown its work to bring together partners to help in the fight against modern slavery in all its diverse forms and support the work of police officers in reducing human trafficking and slavery in Lancashire and the wider region.

New Hub

Over the past 12 months PLASP has worked with Hope for Justice in developing a new hub in Lancashire. This is one of only few such hubs across the Country and it has created two full time outreach workers, together with a part time trainer. This facility has increased services across Lancashire for victims of modern-day slavery as well as increasing the training output. They work closely with the team, and they have made a real impact already.

Training

There has been bespoke training through the partnership for a number of organisations who may come into contact with those experiencing modern slavery and how to spot the signs. Work is also underway with the University of Central Lancashire to develop an online course.

I have funded a new Virtual Reality Project with headsets and supporting hardware enabling Lancashire Constabulary to work in partnership with Cumbria University to create scenarios that they will be then able to use for training and public facing events. This is an exciting and innovative piece of work which will continue into 2022.

Events and Roadshows

The PLASP has supported and attended several conferences and ran numerous roadshows across the county including Preston, Burnley and Nelson aimed at raising public awareness around the many issues of human trafficking and modern-day slavery and includes the use of the Freedom Bus. These events have been supported by the Soroptimists, Cadets, Salvation Army and many other groups and individuals.



TACKLING DOMESTIC ABUSE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Domestic abuse and sexual offences are completely unacceptable, and we have made huge strides over the past 12 months to bolster the Constabulary’s capacity to respond to these issues and to ensure that victims and survivors receive the expert support they need and deserve.

2021/22 Highlights

New dedicated team

I have invested in the establishment of a dedicated rape and serious sexual offences team within the Constabulary. This means that 40+ new officers will now join existing colleagues to bring offenders to justice and improve outcomes for victims.

These new posts are funded through the Police Uplift Programme as well as additional funding I raised through the precept, the policing element of council tax. The additional officers will make a real difference in tackling this type of crime, driving up convictions and securing justice for victims.

Support for victims

Ensuring that victims and survivors of rape and serious sexual offences can access specialist, tailored support is equally important. This is why I have commissioned Lancashire Victim Services to provide emotional support and practical help through their team

of Independent Sexual Violence Advisers (ISVAs) and Independent Domestic Violence Advisers (IDVAs).

The contract I have awarded includes an additional £2.5m investment over five years from my budget on top of the Government’s grant which funds victim services. This extra investment ensures that victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence have access to face-to-face support from expert teams to help them move forward.

The service received 13.5k referrals for domestic abuse support and 2.6K referrals for sexual violence support in 2021/22 with over 4,000 people taking up the offer of specialist support.

My Office continues to project manage the innovative support service for sexual violence victims based in Lancashire health settings. First implemented by Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, the award-winning service first started as a pilot scheme at Blackpool Victoria Hospital in 2018 but has since been rolled out across Lancashire.

The project places specialist support workers in health settings to provide immediate support to anyone who discloses recent or historic experiences of sexual violence and to provide access to further support through other local services. Thanks to NHS England funding secured by my Office, the service has now been extended for a further five years to 2027.

Operation Provide

Operation Provide continues to run across Blackpool, Fylde, Wyre, Lancaster and Morecambe and sees independent domestic violence advocates from Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust on hand when police officers attend domestic abuse incidents to support victims and their children with immediate safety and long-term plans. I have committed additional funding towards this project which will allow the initiative to continue to run for another two years.

An independent evaluation of the project by Liverpool John Moores University showed that the number of victims engaging

“Lancashire is recognised nationally as having a high number of positive outcomes for people affected by rape and sexual assault; however, we know there are areas in which we can improve. The investment is very welcome, and these additional officers will further enhance our ability to provide the best possible service to victims and to bring perpetrators to justice”

ASSISTANT CHIEF CONSTABLE IAN DAWSON, LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY



with safeguarding advice has increased by 46% as a result of the operation and the number of victims engaging with prosecution increased by 27%.



Additional funding

My Office secured an additional £3.9m in Home Office and Ministry of Justice funding to support victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence.

This money is now supporting a variety of projects across Lancashire. This includes the delivery of healthy relationship programmes in local schools, projects supporting victims and work with perpetrators to break the cycle of abuse.

Supporting the national Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy

Violence against women and girls is unacceptable and I wholeheartedly support the Government’s drive to tackle this issue. In addition to my investment in the new dedicated rape and serious sexual offences team I’ve also invested in Operation Night Guardian which was launched by the Constabulary in December of 2021.

Operation Night Guardian aims to increase safety of women and girls in the night-time economy and tackles drink spiking by placing plain clothes officers in strategic locations to detect and deter crime.

I’ve also supported the roll out of the StreetSafe tool here in Lancashire. Launched by the Home Office this tool allows residents to anonymously flag areas where they don’t feel safe to help us build a picture of problem areas and to make improvements.

85%

DOMESTIC ABUSE VICTIMS SATISFIED WITH THE SERVICE

262

PROTECTIVE & PREVENTATIVE ORDERS ISSUED

16k

NOTIFICATIONS SENT TO SCHOOLS UNDER OPERATION ENCOMPASS

23%

INCREASE IN RECORDED DOMESTIC ABUSE CRIMES INDICATING INCREASED VICTIM CONFIDENCE IN REPORTING

CRACKING DOWN ON BURGLARY AND ROBBERY

Burglary and robbery are crimes that leave victims feeling vulnerable in their own home or walking around their community. They cause misery and its effects on people can be long lasting but encouragingly the proportion of burglary victims satisfied with the police service received continues to increase.

The underlying causes of burglary and robbery are often related to substance misuse and feeding habits, with a small minority of offenders committing most of the crimes.

I have outlined the work we'll be doing over the life of the Police and Crime Plan, making sure we best use the resources of Lancashire Constabulary and engage partners across the criminal justice sphere.

People should be able to feel safe in their homes and victims rightly demand their case to be investigated and offenders punished.

2021/22 Highlights

Targeting prolific offenders

The majority of acquisitive crimes are carried out by a minority of criminals who regularly offend, potentially related to substance misuse or other factors that make them more likely to offend repeatedly.

Operation Vanquish saw targeted activity against those who were wanted for acquisitive crime such as burglary, robbery and vehicle crime – with one week of action seeing over 25 individuals arrested.

Asset seizure and recovery of stolen goods

As Commissioner I am keen to support the Chief Constable in his drive to seize the proceeds of crime and hit criminals where it often hurts most, their pockets.

We want criminals to understand that Lancashire is a hostile place for them to carry out their activities and asset seizures are an excellent way to send this message.

Equally, we want to recover stolen goods wherever possible and reunite them with their rightful owners. Items seized or recovered by officers over the past year have included cash, vehicles, rural plant and machinery among other items stolen by organised gangs.

Retail crime roundtable

I brought together representatives from the retail industry in Lancashire to hear their issues relating to retail crime. I want Lancashire's business owners to know that I am on their side and their voice is being heard.

What may be considered petty theft to some has a real impact on people's livelihoods and the confidence they have to report crimes. We also need to remember that shoplifting and theft is often a by-product of deeper problems.

I also lent my support to the #Shopkind campaign, which is uniting the retail sector to tackle violence and abuse against shopworkers. It's important that we do not tolerate it in Lancashire.

“ In August 2021 three men were jailed for a total of 25 years for their roles in plotting burglaries across Lancashire and the Northwest stealing cars, cash and jewellery worth more than half a million pounds. This case was the result of a long running investigation over a number of months, and I hope this result sends out the clear message that Lancashire is not an easy target for those who would seek to take advantage. We will find you and we will ensure that you answer for your actions before the courts.”

PC SAM PATEL OF PRESTON POLICE TARGET TEAM



Business Crime Coordinator

The Business Crime Coordinator, based within the Constabulary and funded by me, supports organisations across Lancashire impacted by crime such as burglary and robbery - helping to 'design out crime' to protect businesses from falling victim to criminals.

<6%

OF BURGLARY & ROBBERY VICTIMS WERE REPEAT VICTIMS

45%

POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR ROBBERY OF BUSINESS PROPERTY INVESTIGATIONS

432k

HOME OFFICE FUNDING SECURED WITH PARTNERS TO IMPROVE PUBLIC SPACES

76%

OF BURGLARY VICTIMS SATISFIED WITH SERVICE RECEIVED FROM POLICE

33%

REDUCTION IN RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY OFFENCES COMPARED TO PRE-PANDEMIC

23

PLACES HIGHER IN THE NATIONAL RANKINGS FOR ROBBERY OUTCOMES COMPARED TO PRE-PANDEMIC

TARGETING DANGEROUS DRIVERS

My Police and Crime Plan made clear that we won't tolerate dangerous driving anywhere in Lancashire. Lancashire Constabulary and our partners work together through the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership to reduce the numbers of people killed or seriously injured on Lancashire's roads.

Lancashire Road Safety Partnership Review

The Lancashire Road Safety Partnership is the coordinating body for Lancashire, Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool which aims to reduce road casualties through the management of speed, enforcement, engineering, emergency response, driver education and training and through developing collaborative approaches to education, awareness, engagement and other measures

In my Police and Crime Plan I committed to a full, independent, root and branch review of the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership and we put this into motion quickly with my Deputy Andy Pratt MBE becoming Chair of the Partnership.

A peer review by West Yorkshire Police has already concluded, with further work underway to help determine how the Partnership can be configured to best serve the county with a new strategy and plan set to be agreed at the end of 2022.

Operation Vanquish

As one of the key responses by the Chief Constable to my priorities, 2022 has seen growing proactive activity targeting dangerous drivers through Op Vanquish. Both myself and Deputy PCC Andy Pratt MBE have joined officers out in communities across Lancashire seeing the difference this is making.

From arresting drink drivers, seizing vehicles that pose a danger to other road users, and addressing speeding concerns in hot spot areas, I have seen first-hand a proactive approach to enforcement with our road policing officers are taking the fight to criminals and keeping people safe.

During a weeklong Operation in March 2022 officers:

Arrested 60 people for drink or drug driving

Caught 54 people not wearing a seatbelt

Dealt with 217 people for speeding

Stopped 15 people who were driving while using a mobile phone

Found 72 cars on the road without an MOT

Seized vehicles from 82 people for driving without insurance or a licence

Gave traffic offence reports to 229 people and summonsed 79 people to court

Recovered and returned several stolen vehicles to their rightful owners

Seized large amounts cash off people believed to be involved in criminal activities.

“We often receive comments and complaints from members of the public about dangerous and anti-social driving and there is a significant demand for a system like OpSnap. It allows us to effectively deal with digital footage of traffic offences in a quick and secure way, whilst making the investigation process more streamlined for the public and saving our officers' time. Road safety in Lancashire is something we take very seriously, and we are determined to tackle dangerous, careless and inconsiderate driving on our county's roads.”

SUPERINTENDENT DAMIAN DARCY, OPERATIONS MANAGER FOR TACTICAL OPERATIONS, LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY



Average Speed Cameras

An evaluation in Spring 2021 of the eight routes across Lancashire installed with average speed cameras between March 2017 and August 2018 have proven to reduce both collisions and casualties - and since the cameras were introduced, speeding offences have reduced by more than half.

Analysis of the impact the average speed cameras have had in the two years since they went live demonstrates that they have been successful in reducing the number of speeding vehicles on all eight routes, with some, such as Grane Road, having huge success, reducing detections of excess speed by over 70%.

Slower speeds mean safer roads for all road users, residents and communities. I'm pleased to see that the number of both collisions and offences detected on these roads has reduced so significantly.

Average speed cameras are a visible and effective deterrent to speeding drivers. They are part of a range of safety camera technologies used by the Lancashire Road Safety

Partnership and due to the success of the installations in reducing both offences and collisions, 2022/2023 will see the installation of five further average speed camera routes in Lancashire around the county.

Those who continue to choose to speed on Lancashire's roads will not be tolerated and offenders will continue to be dealt with appropriately.

20MPH Limits Enforcement

The safety of our roads is an issue that comes up time and time again and as it is now a strategic priority, the enforcement of 20mph was a policy change agreed and implemented in 2021 with the new Chief Constable to ensure community concerns are being addressed.

Enforcement of speed limits continues to take place a number of ways, including by the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership mobile vans, and by specific targeting from officers including roads policing specialists and locally based neighbourhood officers and special constables.

Over the past 12 months police officers have carried out enforcement on 20 mph roads in several areas across the county that had been identified as being of concern to residents on the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership community concern website.

Enforcement, whilst important, is not the only means of changing driver behaviour and a countywide Community Road Watch scheme has also been reinvigorated, spearheaded by my DPCC Andy Pratt MBE.

Work is on-going to further improve how concerns of local communities are fed into the road safety tasking processes to result in interventions and, where necessary, enforcement - including in 20 mph zones and speed limited roads.

15%

**REDUCTION
IN KILLED AND
SERIOUSLY
INJURED
CASUALTIES ON
LANCASHIRE ROADS**

200

**NEW BREATH TEST
MACHINES PURCHASED
TO TARGET DRINK
DRIVERS**

10

**CARS PER DAY (ON
AVERAGE) SEIZED
FROM UNINSURED
OR ANTI-SOCIAL
DRIVERS**

10000➤

**ARRESTS BY SPECIALIST
OFFICERS FOR SERIOUS
DRIVING OFFENCES**

Op Snap

I supported the launch of OpSnap in late 2021 as an additional tool in our mission to tackle dangerous and antisocial driving on the roads of Lancashire. This comprises of a new, secure online portal for members of the public to easily upload and submit digital footage of suspected traffic offences to Lancashire Police.

Op Snap results

600+

**SUBMISSIONS
RECEIVED**

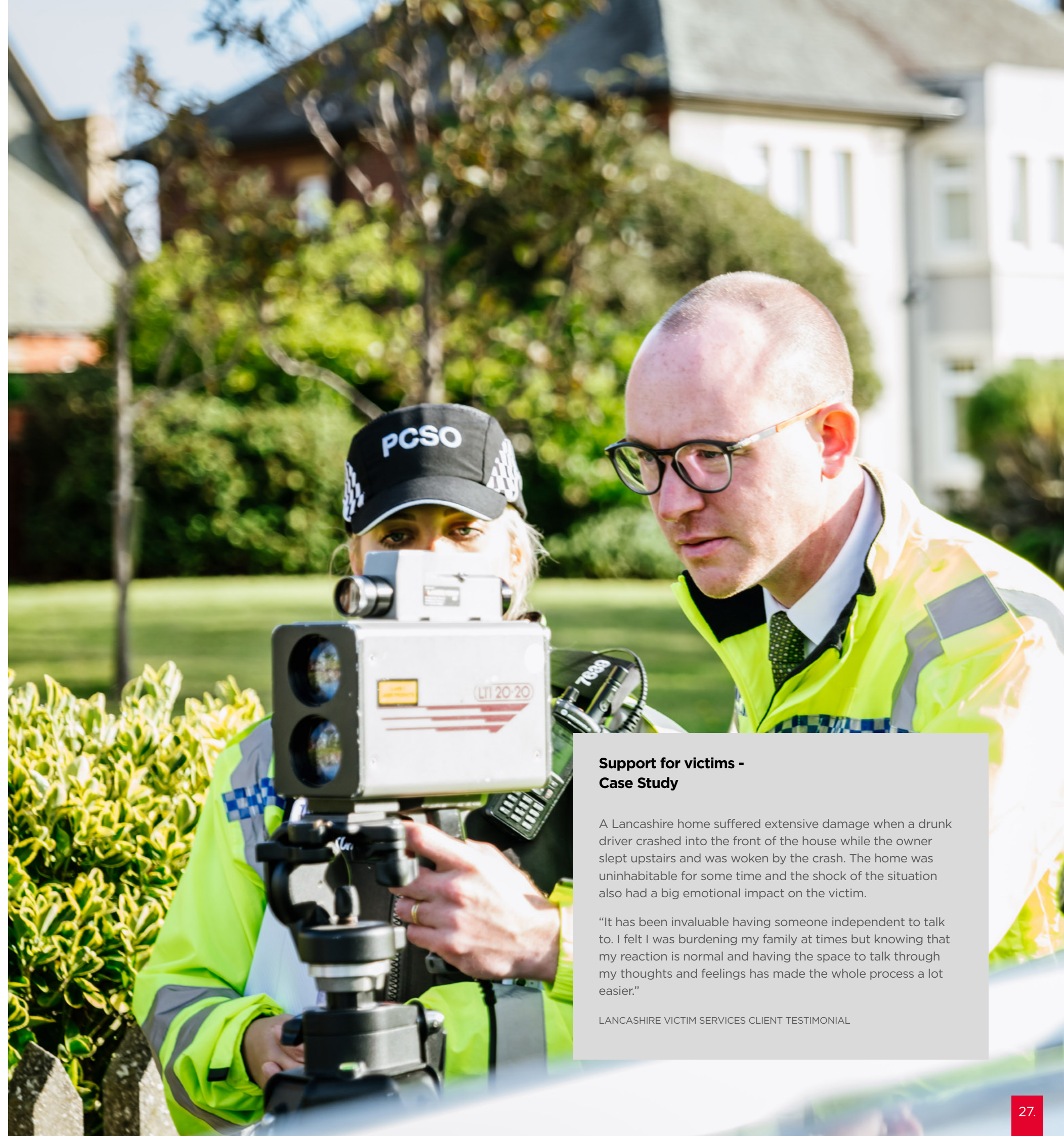
50%

**OF DRIVERS RECEIVING
A SANCTION, WHETHER
WARNING, FIXED PENALTY,
TRAINING COURSE OR
PROSECUTION**

Drink and Drug Driving

A month-long drink and drug driving campaign in December resulted in 240 arrests for impaired driving and a 22% reduction in road traffic collisions was observed compared with the festive period in the previous year. In response, more officers are set to receive training in impairment testing and the use of drugs wipes.

Further support has been provided to front-line officers through the provision of 200 new breath test machines, and 90 new Stinger devices to stop vehicles safely in pursuit situations are on order. In addition, 10 new handheld lasers will be utilised to target excessive speed.



Support for victims - Case Study

A Lancashire home suffered extensive damage when a drunk driver crashed into the front of the house while the owner slept upstairs and was woken by the crash. The home was uninhabitable for some time and the shock of the situation also had a big emotional impact on the victim.

“It has been invaluable having someone independent to talk to. I felt I was burdening my family at times but knowing that my reaction is normal and having the space to talk through my thoughts and feelings has made the whole process a lot easier.”

LANCASHIRE VICTIM SERVICES CLIENT TESTIMONIAL

SUPPORTING RURAL COMMUNITIES

In my Summer 2021 survey, nine out of ten Lancashire residents (90%) believe that all areas of Lancashire, both rural and urban, should have strong dedicated police resources.

More than 70 per cent of Lancashire is classed as rural and keeping people safe in rural communities is just as important as delivering the best possible service for larger towns and cities, with people in our more rural areas regularly telling me they felt like they didn't receive the police service they need and deserve.

The cost of rural crime dropped by 23.6% in Lancashire in 2021 when compared to 2020 (NFU Rural Crime Report 2022). Security measures, rural crime initiatives, quieter roads and community vigilance have all played their part in suppressing countryside crime. However, we are not complacent.

I committed to invest in officers and equipment and regularly meet with Divisional Commanders for our three police divisions and ensure that rural areas in each are receiving the policing service they deserve and raise issues specific to rural areas such as the theft of plant and other farming equipment, including quadbikes and GPS systems.

Rural Task Forces

In January 2022 I opened a conference, supported by Lancashire Partnership Against Crime (LANPAC) with our key stakeholders and partners putting the focus on tackling rural crime in 2022.

The event marked the official launch of our new rural task force teams which were introduced in March 2021 across Lancashire to allow us to proactively target the issues that matter most to rural communities.

Based in Morecambe, Garstang, Ormskirk, Clitheroe and Waterfoot a total of 20 officers now form part of the local policing teams that already cover the rural communities to provide extra resources to target, disrupt and address rural crime.

This brought a model which had been effective in our urban areas out into our rural communities to target the issues and the people who cause the most harm to our rural communities.

Since the rural taskforce teams were introduced in 2021, they have made 85 arrests, carried out over 100 stop searches and seized plant, equipment and vehicles worth more than £1m.

They have also issued Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs) Community Protection Notices (CPNs) and Criminal Warning Notices (CWMs) and launched a number of cross border operations.

By bringing together our dedicated rural task force teams, senior officers and partner agencies we can shape future planning to help keep our rural communities safe.

Investment

I have approved £700k investment into growth of the dedicated rural taskforces and purchase of new equipment to support their role in being a key part of tackling rural criminals.

This builds on the support that the Chief Constable has from me to make tackling crime in rural areas a priority and utilise to resources in a way that means they are as protected as our larger towns and cities.



Building relationships with key rural stakeholders

In my first year have spent a lot of time out in our rural areas with officers from the dedicated rural taskforces, listening to their ideas and challenges. I have also met with people who live and work in rural areas about their individual experiences around crime and what more we can do to make them feel safe and supported.

In March 2022 I held a meeting with the Country Land and Business Association (CLA) and members to listen to their concerns about rural crime such as machinery and fuel theft; illegal hare coursing and associated legislative changes; organised crime; and fly-tipping in the county.

I have worked to strengthen links with crucial partners such as the National Farmers Union, RSPCA and the Country Landowners Association, joining officers on visits, operations and at rural events.

“It was a positive meeting which highlighted the very real impact crime has on rural businesses and communities across Lancashire. Work undertaken by Lancashire’s Rural Crime Unit is exemplary, especially given the vast area that they cover. The CLA is committed to working with our partners, and we urge farmers, businesses and the wider public to report all incidents so that police can build up a more complete picture and then allocate appropriate resources.”

CLA DIRECTOR NORTH LUCINDA DOUGLAS

As chair of the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership, my Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Andy Pratt MBE has worked with Parish Councils, schools and Community Safety Partnerships to understand the issues around dangerous driving and support the use of Community Roadwatch enforcement in key rural areas.

I have also highlighted the work my Office, the Constabulary and partners are doing to support rural communities, such as the launch of the Farm Defender crime prevention tool developed by Lancashire Constabulary and Myerscough College.

“It was great to welcome Andrew to Myerscough to showcase what we’re doing to try and reduce rural crime in the county and beyond.

“Initiatives such as Farm Defender can make a real difference in the sector, and with rural crime high on the Commissioner’s agenda, we’re delighted to be involved in tackling it. “We look forward to continuing to strengthen our links with the Commissioner, and Lancashire Constabulary, over the coming weeks and months.”

CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND PRINCIPAL OF MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE, ALISON ROBINSON

Taking the fight to criminals

Rural taskforces have seized hundreds of stolen vehicles, machinery, and plant equipment, showing that if you commit crime in a rural area you are going to feel the full force of the law.

There have been many successful prosecutions, some really substantial and including prolific offenders who have caused misery for farmers and those in rural areas for years.

I've also been supporting work to ensure officers and staff fully understand the unique challenges in rural areas, an example of which includes additional training for contact centre staff to better understand rural issues and ensure the correct use of police resources.

“The introduction of the Rural Task Forces has made a significant impact on our rural communities. In the south of Lancashire alone the team has seized 152 stolen vehicles, machinery and plant to a value of approximately £785,00 and 57 offenders have been prosecuted. One of the prosecutions resulted in Criminal Behaviour Order being imposed on a male who had caused misery for farmers of West Lancashire and Merseyside for years. Not only was he convicted of a number of animal cruelty related offences, but he has been banned from the area protecting the rural communities from further offences. It is encouraging to see the Police and Crime Commissioner’s commitment to rural policing, and we look forward to building on the success of the teams in order to make our rural communities safer.”

SGT DARREN CARR, LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY

700k
INVESTMENT

1m
**WORTH OF STOLEN
PLANT & MACHINERY
RECOVERED**

100+
**STOP & SEARCHES
CARRIED OUT**



SUPPORTING VICTIMS

In my role as Police and Crime Commissioner I hold responsibility for the commissioning of services for victims of crime.

Together with the Constabulary I am working hard to ensure there are fewer victims of crime but when crime does happen, its vital that victims are able to access specialist support to help them move forward and recover from what they have experienced.

In December 2021 I awarded a £13m contract to Victim Support to continue to deliver this under the Lancashire Victim Services brand from 2022 to 2027.

Lancashire Victim Services (LVS) offer support following any type of crime but the overall contract value includes an additional £2.5m investment from my budget to ensure that specialist, face to face services are available for victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence as well as young victims of crime under the age of 18.

My Deputy PCC Andy Pratt MBE chairs quarterly performance review meetings with Lancashire Victim Services to ensure the service delivery and performance is in line with the contract agreement.

Partnership Working
Lancashire Victim Services also work with a variety of partners across Lancashire with the aim of raising awareness of the support available and to prevent crime through education.

The team has been working with high schools across Lancashire in delivering the Recovery Toolkit for children. This is a structured evidence-based programme covering topics such as healthy relationships and trust, gender roles, responsibilities and choices, keeping safe, and feelings and behaviours. Lancashire Victim Services have also run lunchtime drop-in sessions at some schools and carried out one-to-one work with children identified as having higher needs.

Over the past year Lancashire Victim Services have also had stalls at several events with partners including the University of Central Lancashire, Global Race Centre for Equality and colleges across the County.

Additional Funding
My Office secured an additional £3.9m in Home Office and Ministry of Justice funding to support victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence.

This money is now supporting a variety of projects across Lancashire including:

- Delivery of healthy relationship programmes in local schools
- Projects supporting victims
- Work with perpetrators to break the cycle of abuse
- Health IDVAs - Independent Domestic Violence Advisers providing hospital-based support for victims of domestic abuse
- Health ISVAs - Independent Sexual Violence Advisers providing hospital-based support for victims of sexual violence



“We are really pleased to have been awarded this contract and to be trusted with the delivery of the service for another five years. Our team is so passionate about offering the right support at the right time and the longevity of this contract, together with the additional investment in our specialist domestic abuse and sexual violence teams will allow us to do just that. Our message to anyone affected by crime here in Lancashire is simple: Please contact us. We will work with you at your pace, and we will help you find the best way forward for your circumstances.”

CLAIRE POWELL, AREA MANAGER FOR LANCASHIRE VICTIM SERVICES

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

My role is to be the public’s voice in policing and to hold Lancashire Constabulary to account to ensure that the communities we serve receive the best policing service possible.

I also work to ensure community needs are met as effectively as possible, and to improve local relationships through building confidence and restoring trust.

Good engagement and effective communications are essential to ensuring that the public and other stakeholders have an effective say in how their communities are policed whilst understanding the challenges of modern policing.

Stakeholders

11 newsletters were issued to MPs, council leaders, county councillors and key partners to update them on the work of my Office and the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan.

Summer Survey 2021

Over 5,000 residents took part in my summer survey to share their views on crime and policing and the issues that matter most to them to shape my Police and Crime Plan for Lancashire. These views helped me to set the strategic direction for local policing and I will continue to hold the Chief Constable to account for delivery against the plan.

When considering their safety where they live, 79% of residents say they feel either safe or very safe.

Social Media



Facebook
15,100 followers Page reach 284,628



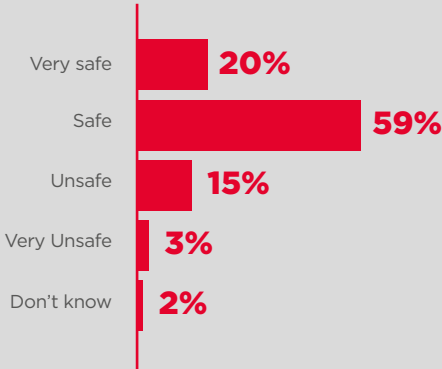
Twitter
7,100 followers



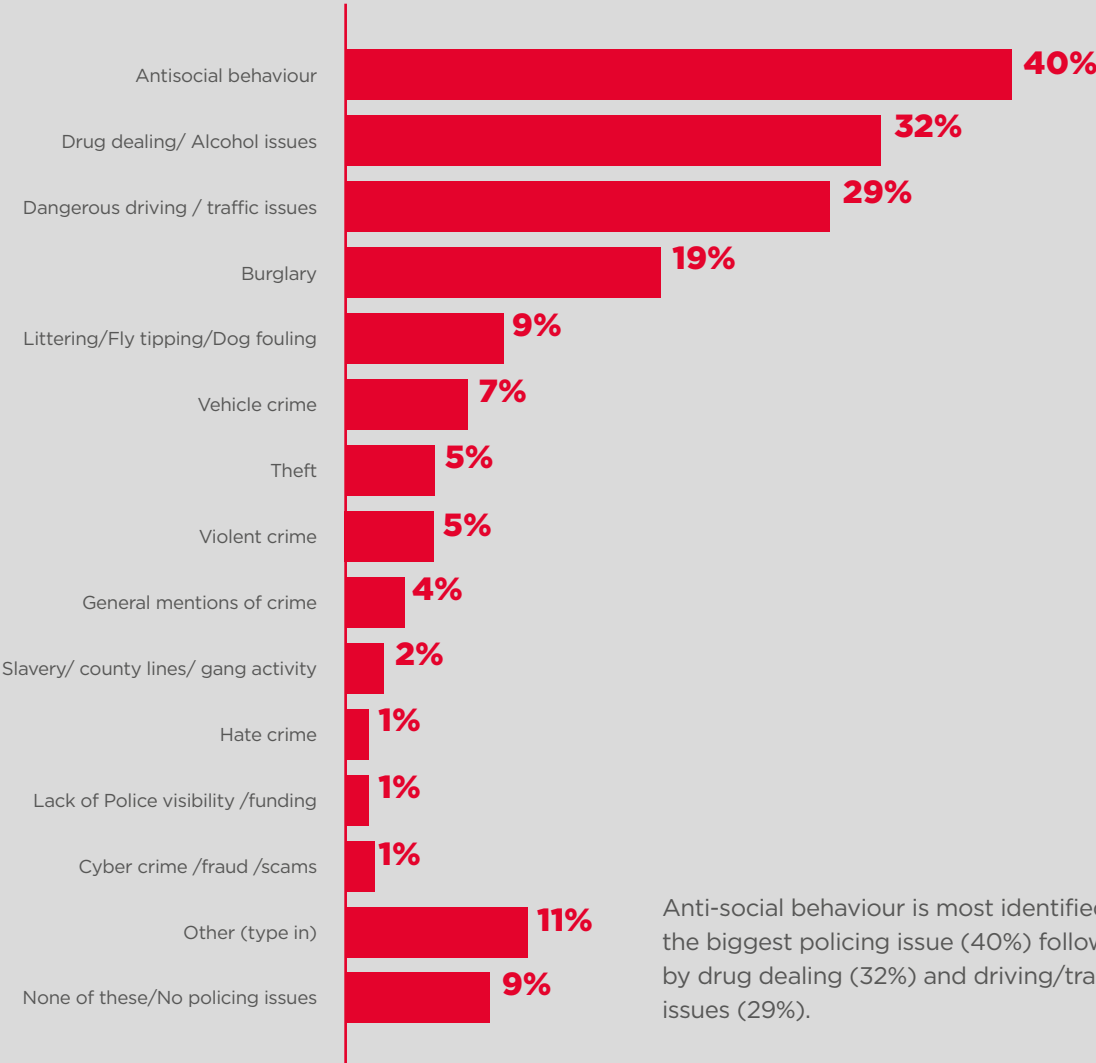
Instagram
1,090 followers reach 6,690

Website page view
86,646

In the Know
67,300 registered with community messaging system



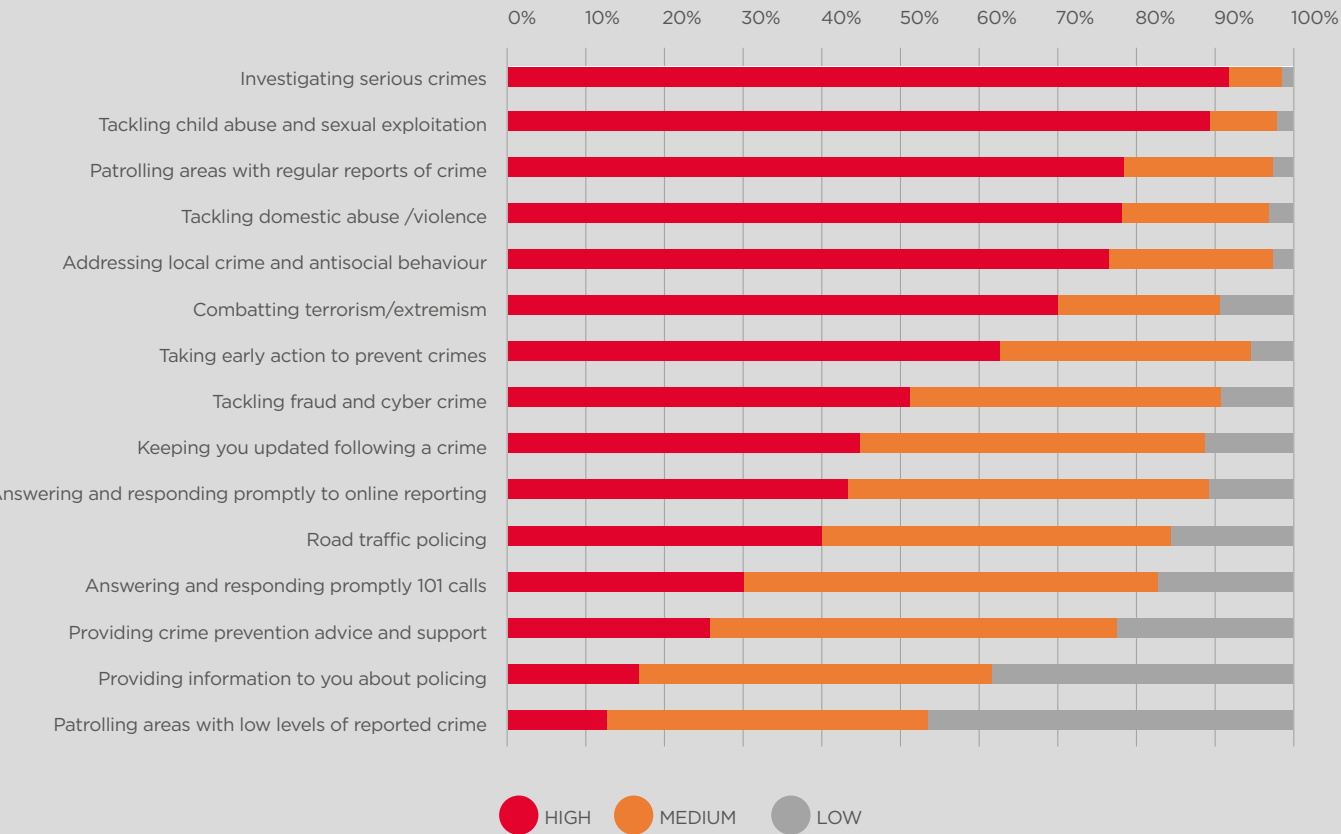
When considering their safety where they live, 79% of residents give the top two responses for feeling safe.



Anti-social behaviour is most identified as the biggest policing issue (40%) followed by drug dealing (32%) and driving/traffic issues (29%).



Policing Priorities



Police and Crime Plan Launch

In December 2021 I officially launched my Police and Crime Plan, setting out my four-year plan detailing how I will lead the fight against crime in the county during a landmark event at the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) attended by over 200 local leaders from the Police, public sector partners, Universities, faith organisations, Community Safety Partnerships as well as local MPs and Council Leaders.

The Police and Crime Plan 2021 – 2025 announced the largest investment into Lancashire Police in living memory, with a £300m, 10-year commitment to overhaul police critical infrastructure, including sustainable new fleet, police stations and training facilities, digital and cyber capabilities, alongside hundreds of extra police officers delivered through the Government’s uplift programme.

Events

I regularly attend community group meetings, conferences and events across the county, including an ‘Ask the Commissioner’ phone in on BBC Radio Lancashire to give residents and stakeholders opportunities to ask questions and find out more about the work of my Office.



I have also given interviews to specialist publications including the Lancashire Chamber of Commerce, Police Oracle to update about the work of my Office.

In Summer 2021 I attended Morecambe Pride and DPCC Andy Pratt MBE Lancaster Pride, having sponsored the events through Lancashire Victim Services in support of our LGBTQ+ community.

Precept Consultation

I have continued to work constructively with Priti Patel, Kit Malthouse and Lancashire MPs to secure the best possible outcomes for Lancashire and deliver what the public want to see, more investment and support for policing services that take the fight to criminals.

On 1 February 2022, my priorities and budget proposals for a new era in policing gained unanimous cross-party backing at a meeting with Lancashire’s Police and Crime Panel.

This followed extensive public consultation of 2,400 residents with 86% agreeing that a 19p a week a precept increase, in line with Home Office recommendation, should be invested in front line policing and associated support.

A leaflet was sent out from my Office to council tax payers across Lancashire alongside their annual bill to explain and reassure residents that every pound would be spent wisely.

What the public said:

“It cannot be a bad thing to invest in Police officers. More visibility and accessibility is important to run alongside technology. Many complaints have been raised re the lack of police involvement in crimes such as burglary , car theft etc. this needs to be addressed to provide the public that everything is being done to protect them.”

“Invest in the policing and frontline services makes for a safer, more efficient force to prevent, stop and hold those responsible for crime.”

“Anything that puts police back on the streets and visible is worth it especially in response to anti social behaviour and organised crime.”

“I think almost £10 a year is reasonable if it is ring fenced for more frontline officers and operational policing...”

“I agree that a modern police force should be properly funded. As a council tax payer I accept that I have to contribute towards its funding.”

GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

As the public’s voice in policing, it is important that Lancashire residents can feel confident about the work I am doing to hold the Chief Constable to account and to ensure that people across the county receive an effective and efficient policing service.



It’s equally important to share how I am carrying out my duties as Police and Crime Commissioner and that members of the public can access and scrutinise this information.

I regularly publish information on my website and across my social media channels to ensure my Office is open and transparent about the work we do to lead the fight against crime in Lancashire.

- Attended five Police and Crime Panel meetings where members scrutinised and supported my work
- Made 39 formal decisions and published them
- Had weekly one-to-one meetings with the Chief Constable
- Held four formal Strategic Scrutiny and Accountability Board meetings where I questioned and challenged the Chief Constable and his Chief Officer Team

- My Office held four Joint Audit and Ethics Committee (JAEC) meetings focusing on governance and risk management
- My Office held two Stop & Search/Use of Force continuous improvement Panels
- My Office responded to 42 Freedom of Information requests
- My Office responded to nine Subject Access Requests
- My Office Administered two Police Appeal Tribunals
- My Office Processed one Pension Forfeiture
- My Office Completed 114 reviews in relation to police complaints
- My Office entered into two Section 22 collaboration agreements
- My Office appointed 10 Legally Qualified Chairs to preside over Police Misconduct Hearings and Police Appeal Tribunals.

Lancashire Criminal Justice Board

In 2021 Deputy PCC Andy Pratt MBE took on the role of Chair of the Lancashire Criminal Justice Board, bringing together criminal justice organisations at police force area level to support joint working and improve services. The purpose and vision of the LCJB is to reduce crime, harm and risk by increasing the efficiency and credibility of the Criminal Justice System and therefore ensuring better outcomes for victims.

Independent Custody Visitors

My Office manages the Independent Custody Visiting (ICV) Scheme where volunteers visit police stations to check on the welfare of people detained in custody by the police to see the conditions in which they are being held and to ensure their rights are being observed.

Following the easing of covid restrictions, physical visits to custody suites by Independent Custody Visitors recommenced in February 2021 and between 1st

April 2021 to 31st March 2022, 172 ICV visits were made to the four operating custody suites within Lancashire – Blackpool, Blackburn, Preston and Lancaster.

During this period 576 detainees received a visit from ICVs who were able to check on the welfare of the detainee during their detention.

During 2021/22 my Office recruited 13 new ICVs.

During 2021/22 the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership held two meetings chaired by Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Andy Pratt MBE.

Complaints against the Chief Constable

I am responsible for dealing with Complaints, Conduct Matters, Death and Serious Injury Matters and Non-Police Reform Act Misconduct or Gross Misconduct matters that involve the Chief Constable of Lancashire Constabulary.

Through my Office I take steps to resolve and where appropriate, investigate the complaint. When concluded, the complainant is informed of the outcome, along with a clear rationale as to how and why that decision’s been reached. To ensure openness and transparency the complainant is also advised of a right of appeal to the IOPC if they disagree with the outcome.

In 2021/22 my Office dealt with eight complaints against the Chief Constable – none of which were upheld or met the criteria to be investigated.

Stop and Search and Use of Force

The purpose of the Stop & Search/Use of Force continuous improvement Panel is:

- To provide independent scrutiny of the use of Stop and Search and the use of Force across Lancashire.
- To provide feedback on Stop and Search and Use of Force practices.
- To provide a voice for community concerns and to influence police actions.
- To achieve greater transparency and community involvement in the use of Stop and Search powers and the Use of Force across Lancashire.
- To improve public confidence and trust in the way in which Stop and Search and the use of force is conducted.
- To review and advise on policy, training and tactical considerations.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

Lancashire Violence Reduction Network (LVRN)

Established in 2019, the LVRN is a collaboration of public, private, third sector, community and lived experience organisations and individuals, which aims to prevent and reduce violent crime in Lancashire.

In March 2022 government funding of £5 million was awarded to enable it to continue over the next three years.

The funding, secured through my Office, coincided with the Government evaluation of LVRN performance which shows that they are starting to have a positive impact in reducing violent crime.

Grip funding from Government awarded to me also includes the twice-yearly Operation Sceptre week of intense police action against knife crime. In 2021, Operation Sceptre in Lancashire resulted in 1,257 weapons being taken off the streets, 92 arrests, 62 weapon sweeps, and 830 pupils receiving knife crime education, all over the two weeks the operation ran. This is in addition to the usual day-to-day anti-knife crime policing activity.

LVRN was one of the original 18 Violence Reduction Units pioneering a new approach that brings together local partners in policing, education, health, and local government, to deepen understanding of the root causes of violence and put interventions in place. Those interventions shown to be the most successful are rolled out to other areas in the county.

The LVRN will continue to play an important role as we deliver the Police and Crime Plan, work to cut violent crime and make our streets safer.

Project Adder

In August 2021 I welcomed Policing Minister Kit Malthouse to Lancashire showcase Project ADDER a programme to dismantle drug supply chains and support people who misuse drugs into recovery. The programme is specifically designed to cut crime by helping people recover from addiction and breaking the cycle. Project Adder has since been highlighted as best practice by Home Secretary Priti Patel.

The Knife Angel

November 2021 saw the Knife Angel come to Lancashire. This was made possible by my Office in collaboration with the VRN, Blackburn Cathedral and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

Thousands of people came from all across Lancashire to see the Knife Angel in the grounds of Blackburn Cathedral and to take part in variety of events including a civic reception, peace vigil, music concert, photography competition, workshops and youth engagement sessions with Lancashire schools.

Over the past year, the LVRN has also:

- Delivered trauma-informed training and workforce development to over 2,000 people
- Engaged with more than 2,000 people as part of Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences
- Delivered the DIVERT programme supporting young people into positive life choices away from crime



“For too long, drugs have caused misery and suffering for many in Blackpool, but through Project ADDER, we are starting to see a ray of hope. All parts of the system are working together in Blackpool – whether it’s the police shutting down criminal gangs, or the lived experience team reaching out to those in need, or treatment providers helping to support those misusing drugs to turn their lives around. This joined-up approach is the right one and I want to thank the team in Blackpool for everything they are doing to help us confront the scourge of drug misuse and save lives.”

KIT MALTHOUSE, POLICING MINISTER

Regional Forensic Science Facility

In September 2021 my Office, together with Lancashire Constabulary signed a collaboration agreement with four other Northwest Police forces to provide a new regional forensic science service to help in the fight against crime.

This ground-breaking initiative, the first of its kind in England and Wales, brings together expertise from Lancashire, Cheshire, Cumbria, Merseyside and North Wales forces to increase the efficiency of the forensic science services for the communities they serve.

The regional programme sees collaborative efforts in drug analysis, footwear examination, firearm classification, toxicology and a forensic science courier service. All these services provide shared intelligence and evidence across the Northwest region to work towards supporting safer communities and getting results for victims of crime. It is fantastic to see this collaboration come

together and it’s encouraging to see it based here in Lancashire, building on the forensic science facilities already delivering results and helping secure convictions.

Youth Commission

Funded by my Office together with the Lancashire Violence Reduction Network, the Lancashire Youth Commission on Crime Reduction and Prevention (LYC) was established in late 2020, with 32 young people involved in delivering the peer-led project with youth engagement experts Leaders Unlocked.

Overall, members of the LYC have reached over 2,400 young people across Lancashire through in-person and online workshops, outreach stands, virtual surveys and social media engagement.

Members identified several key areas and made recommendation for my Office, the VRN and the police to focus on. These areas are mental health, hate crime, social media and online crime, abusive relationships, drugs and alcohol and relationships with the police.

Community Safety Partnerships

Community safety partnerships (CSPs) are statutory partnerships of organisations who work together in an area to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour, drug misuse and reoffending.

My Office attends CSP meetings across Lancashire to share intelligence and look at better ways of working together across a range of agencies to tackle local issues.

Over the past year I have provided funding to CSPs in all areas of the county to support projects including the #noexcuseforabusecampaign, knife crime education, safeguarding support for vulnerable victims and anti-social behaviour interventions.

You can find a full list of projects funded through my office in the Finances and Resources pages of this report.

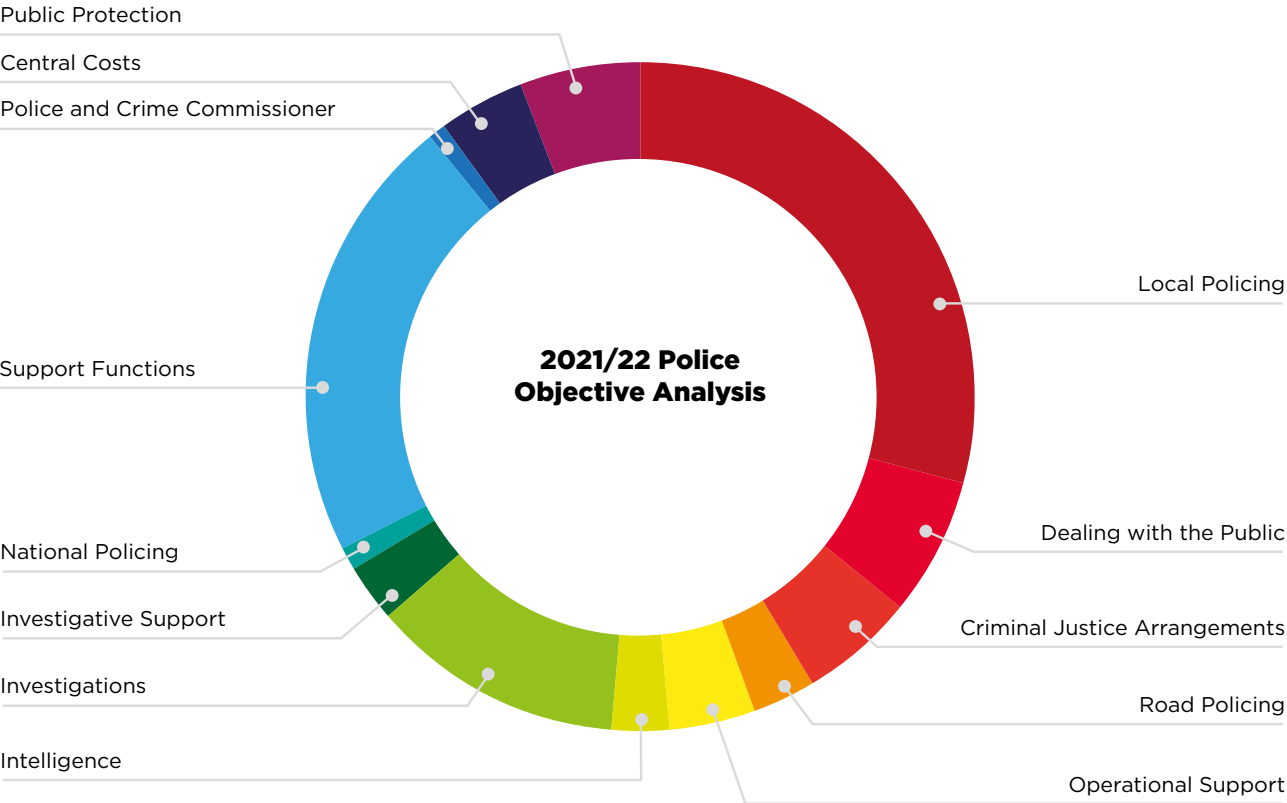
FINANCES AND RESOURCES

Revenue Budget

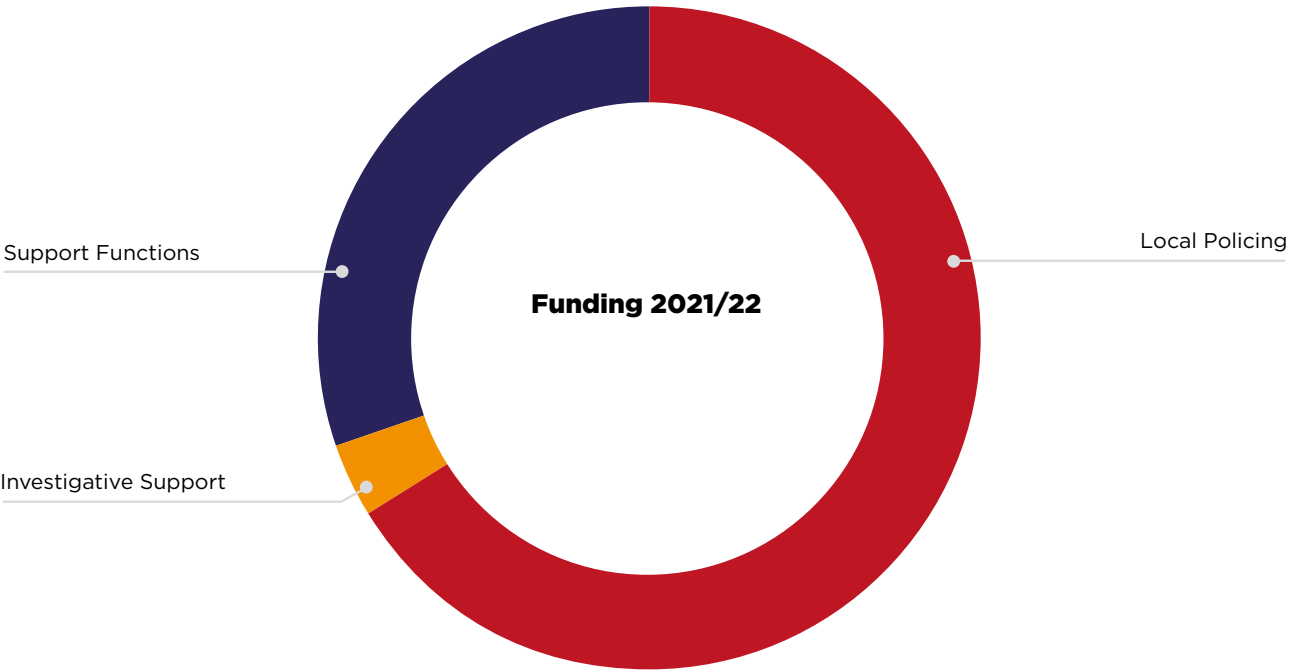
The 2021/22 revenue budget for was set at £319.391m in February 2021. The position at 31 March 2022 is set out below:

	Budget	Spend	Variance	
	£m	£m	£m	%
Chief Constable:				
Pay costs	250.860	250.411	-0.449	-0.2
ACC Territorial Operations	7.731	8.435	0.705	9.1
ACC Specialist Operations	5.679	6.021	0.342	0.4
Deputy Chief Constable	0.321	0.295	-0.026	-8.0
Director of Resources	27.480	26.980	-0.500	-1.8
ACC Crime	3.500	4.517	1.017	6.0
Sub total	295.571	296.659	1.089	0.4
Corporate Budget				
Corporate Budget	15.617	15.829	0.212	1.4
Total Constabulary Budget	311.188	312.488	1.300	0.4
PCC:				
Office of the PCC	1.690	1.662	-0.028	-1.7
Communications	0.120	0.047	-0.073	-61.2
Reducing Crime and Reoffending	0.398	0.266	-0.132	-33.1
Community Safety	0.458	0.280	-0.178	-38.8
Victim and Domestic Abuse services	0.647	0.645	-0.002	-0.4
Sub total	3.313	2.900	-0.413	-12.5
Corporate Budget				
Corporate Budget	4.890	4.003	-0.887	-18.1
Total PCC	8.203	6.903	-1.300	-15.8
TOTAL BUDGET	319.391	319.391	0.000	0

What the money is spent on		
	£	%
Local Policing	93.75	29.35%
Dealing with the Public	21.30	6.67%
Criminal Justice Arrangements	17.95	5.62%
Road Policing	9.80	3.07%
Operational Support	12.59	3.94%
Intelligence	9.50	2.97%
Investigations	39.14	12.26%
Investigative Support	8.69	2.72%
National Policing	3.38	1.06%
Support Functions	68.77	21.53%
Police and Crime Commissioner	3.33	1.04%
Central Costs	12.95	4.05%
Public Protection	18.24	5.71%



Funding 2021/22		
	£	%
Government Grant	219.5	66.35%
Specific Grants	11.4	3.45%
Council Tax	99.9	30.20%
Income	330.8	



Investment

Uplift

Lancashire was allocated a police grant of £219.543m in the police settlement published By Government on 4th February 2021.

This includes funding for the support costs for the recruitment of an additional 152 officers as part of the national ‘uplift’ programme. This also includes seven officers allocated to the Northwest Regional Crime Unit (NWROCU).

Lancashire continue to exceed their national target to recruit an extra 509 officers, boosting the number of resources available to fight crime and keep communities safe.

Some of the officers are already on the beat, having completed all their initial training, while others are with student development units learning all the skills, they need to be able to help to local communities when they need it most.

Lancashire was ranked as the fourth most inclusive organisation in the Inclusive Top 50 UK Employers 2020/21 list and remain one of the Top 50 Inclusive Employers.

Neighbourhood Policing

Significant efficiency savings have been identified across the organisation. To meet my commitment to the public, I intend to invest the saving into the recruitment of an additional 58 police officers in 2021/22. These officers are in addition to the 150 officers provided by the uplift programme and will be assigned to Neighbourhood policing teams across the county.

Funding Formula

With the support of cross-party Lancashire MPs, I have continued to lobby for a balanced and transparent review of the police funding formula.

In August 2021 I wrote to Home Secretary Priti Patel to highlight the need for long overdue reform of the funding formula, which plays a key role in determining money available to police forces, ensuring that it takes into account levels of crime, efficiency and socio-economic factors.

The Government has indicated that they will hold a review into the formula before the next general election and I'm working with my Office to ensure that the process is transparent, whilst taking into account the need to deliver the very best policing service possible here in Lancashire.

Building relationships with Government and working constructively wherever possible with Westminster is extremely important to ensure we get the best possible deal for policing, and I will make sure Lancashire's voice is heard.

Increase contribution to capital investment programme

In developing the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), it was important to recognise the resources available to invest in the capital programme from both capital grant from Government and from earmarked investment reserves have reduced considerably.

Capital investment is vital to ensure the efficient and effective operation of the organisation. The expenditure requirements for capital are significant, due mainly to the combination of an ageing estate and the need to deliver and develop essential information technology infrastructure and the fleet renewal programme. When compared to the level of resources available, there is a clear shortfall. To meet this requirement the annual contribution from the revenue budget is increased by £1m.

Increase to revenue budget for IT investment

The investment made in supporting and delivering the IT infrastructure of the organisation is considerable. Effective systems and infrastructure are vital to ensure the effective and efficient operation of the force. The annual cost of maintaining and supporting this infrastructure and equipment has increased considerably and will increase further in future years.

Over £6m was invested in IT in 2021/22 to ensure the Constabulary has equipment, infrastructure and systems which are fit for purpose. This includes £1.7m to upgrade and replace vital equipment, £1.5m for IT infrastructure and security and £2.9m for the replacement of vital systems. These investments mark a £2.5m increase on the previous year's budget.

Major Operations

There are several concurrent major investigations in operation and the budget to deliver these investigations needs to increase by £0.865m to meet the demand placed upon the force.

Overtime

The budget to deliver the consistent level of overtime undertaken during 'business as usual' for operational policing needs to increase by £0.500m to meet the demand placed upon the force.



Specific Grant Funding	
Victim Services	
Victim Services Core Grant	1,751,428
Sexual Violence	549,426
Domestic Abuse	1,152,599
Total:	3,453,453
Serious Violence	
Violence Reduction Unit	1,152,725
Serious Violence (Grip)	830,208
Project Adder	653,012
ED Navigators	216,118
Trauma Informed training	297,749
Youth Divert	219,934
Total:	3,369,746
G7 Speakers conference reimbursement	
Total Specific grant funding	
451,000	
7,274,199	
Proceeds Of Crime Act receipts	
414,000	



District Community Safety Partnership Funding		
Burnley		16,500.00
	Mediation Services	4,000.00
	Action and Consequences Workshops	1,250.00
	Youth Bus	11,250.00
Chorley		20,000.00
	No Excuse for Abuse Campaign	1,000.00
	Suicide Prevention Campaign	3,357.91
	JJ Effect	3,950.00
	Anti Spiking Campaign	2,500.00
South Ribble		20,000.00
	Safeguarding for vulnerable victims of crime	5,000.00
	No Excuse for Abuse Campaign	1,000.00
	Suicide Prevention Campaign	3,357.91
	JJ Effect	3,950.00
	Anti Spiking Campaign	2,500.00
Fylde		4,700.00
	Continuations of Safe and Confident Communities Project	4,160.00
Hyndburn		16,500.00
	Transportation for DA victims	16,500.00

District Community Safety Partnership Funding		
Lancaster		20,000.00
	No Excuse for Abuse Campaign	1,000.00
	Lancaster Morecambe Cyclepath	19,000.00
Pendle		16,500.00
	Mediation Services	4,000.00
	Detached Youth Work	10,000.00
Preston		20,000.00
	Counter Punch	1,130.00
	PNE Kicks	4,600.00
	Steps Programme	4,300.00
	Wot Wud U Do	2,000.00
Ribble Valley		20,000.00
	Burnley Boys and Girls Club	17,198.00
Rossendale		16,500.00
	No Excuse for Abuse Campaign	1,000.00
	Love Parks and Youth Engagement	10,500.00
	Enhanced Safety - Domestic Abuse	5,000.00
West Lancashire		20,000.00
	No Excuse for Abuse Campaign	1,000.00
	Safer Streets - Electricity Supply	15,000.00
	Neighbourhood Policing Bikes	2,400.00
	Spiking	1,000.00
Wyre		20,000.00
	No Excuse for Abuse Campaign	1,000.00
	Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse	5,000.00
	ASB Interventions	10,000.00



LOOKING AHEAD

My first year in office has flown by and I am proud of the achievements highlighted in this annual report but now it's time to look ahead.

While we have made great progress, we know there still is much to be done and I want to assure you that there is lots of work underway which will help to deliver against the priorities set out in my Police and Crime Plan for Lancashire.

Work has already begun to establish a new specialist unit to combat anti-social behaviour across Lancashire and you will see this launch in the year ahead.

The Constabulary will continue its successful recruitment drive so you can expect more officers to join their colleagues on the streets of Lancashire.

Through my Safer Lancashire Neighbourhoods fund I will continue to invest in community projects and innovative policing tactics to take the fight to criminals and to keep the people of Lancashire Safe.

Waterfoot Police Station is due to reopen its door in the Summer of 2022 delivering on my pledge to ensure that every borough of Lancashire has access to an open police front counter.

I will continue the largest investment in policing in Lancashire in living memory which will see major improvements to police infrastructure and equipment ensuring that Lancashire Constabulary is in the best position to tackle crime and stay one step ahead of criminals.

There is plenty more to come in the year ahead and I am as committed as ever to work closely with the Constabulary and our partners to lead the fight against crime here in Lancashire.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

What you have to say is important to us. If you would like to comment on the work of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire, you can contact us using the information below.

Email: commissioner@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk

Post: Office of the PCC for Lancashire
PO Box 100,
County Hall,
Preston,
PR1 0LD

Call: 01772 533 587

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