



**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER**
for Leicester,
Leicestershire & Rutland

Your Communities - Your Commissioner

Newsletter

Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland

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Delivering a stronger frontline

Visible and accessible policing matters to all of us and I'm proud to have delivered the boost in numbers that I promised. This is something that we desperately needed in our communities.

We've welcomed 332 additional officers to the force – beating our recruitment target of 297. The vast majority have already taken to the streets and are working hard to keep communities safer.

On top of this, we now have a larger headcount of Special Constables. My budget this year equipped them with the tools and training they need, including the roll out of Taser training. They are making a hugely valuable contribution to policing across the force.

I have always been determined to invest the money you pay for policing

wisely, in the things that matter most to you. That's why I've supported the purchase of additional vehicles, including hybrid models highlighting my commitment to the environment. These vehicles are increasing police visibility and helping our different teams do their job efficiently.

It's particularly important to me that young people are confident that the police are the good guys. That's why I've funded the dynamic and interactive Mini Police scheme where younger children can step into the shoes of their local policing team and understand what it is all about.

I've also funded the Leicestershire Police Cadets. They work hard to help make our communities safer places to be and maybe we are witnessing future police chiefs in the making?

Out and about in the City



Attending the DMU Freshers Fair to support the local beat team's crime prevention initiative.



Deputy Rani Mahal visiting West Leicester with local beat team to talk to local businesses about crime affecting them.



At the Police and Crime Event at New College, Leicester to meet the students, watch their video about policing and answer their questions.



Visit to Heathley Park to talk about local problems.



Supporting Op Pedalfast in the City centre with Sgt Zane Tompkins.



Attending the Black History Month event.



Deputy PCC Rani Mahal's visit to Rushey Mead.



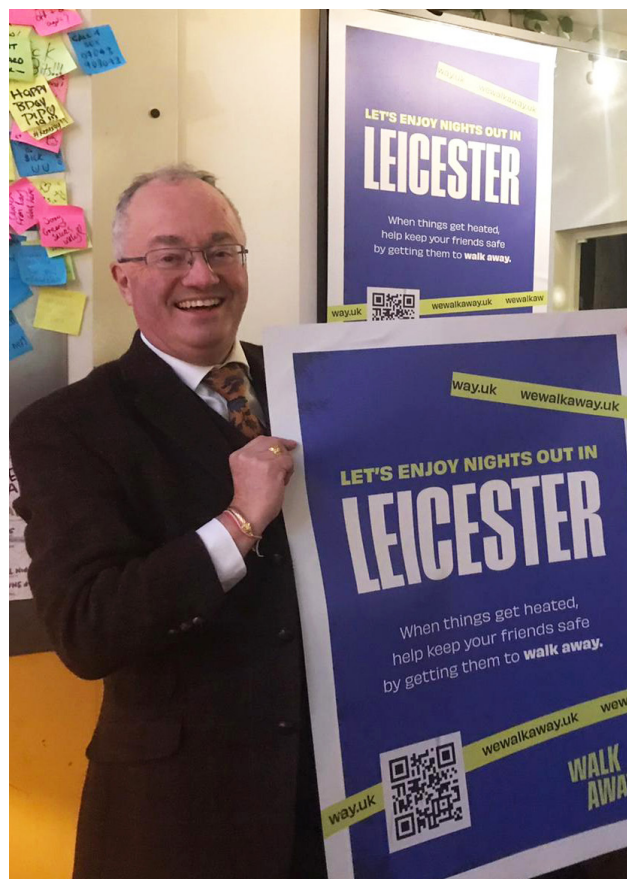
An interesting visit to the Jewish Heritage Centre to learn about the long history of Jewish culture in Leicester.

Curbing Violent Crime

Many of the City's residents enjoy a night out in Leicester, I know I do. It is essential to keep the city's night time economy as safe as possible.

I have been working with the Leicestershire Police and my Violence Reduction Network on a number of schemes, including the new "Walk Away" scheme – see picture.

Together we have achieved a significant reduction in serious violence in comparison to other areas according to the Home Office's Early Warning System (EWS). We have been flagged as a 'positive outlier' for its proactive approach to reducing knife crime and serious violence. This is official recognition that my drive to push down knife crime, as prioritised in my Police and Crime Plan, is delivering outstanding results.



Keeping your communities safe



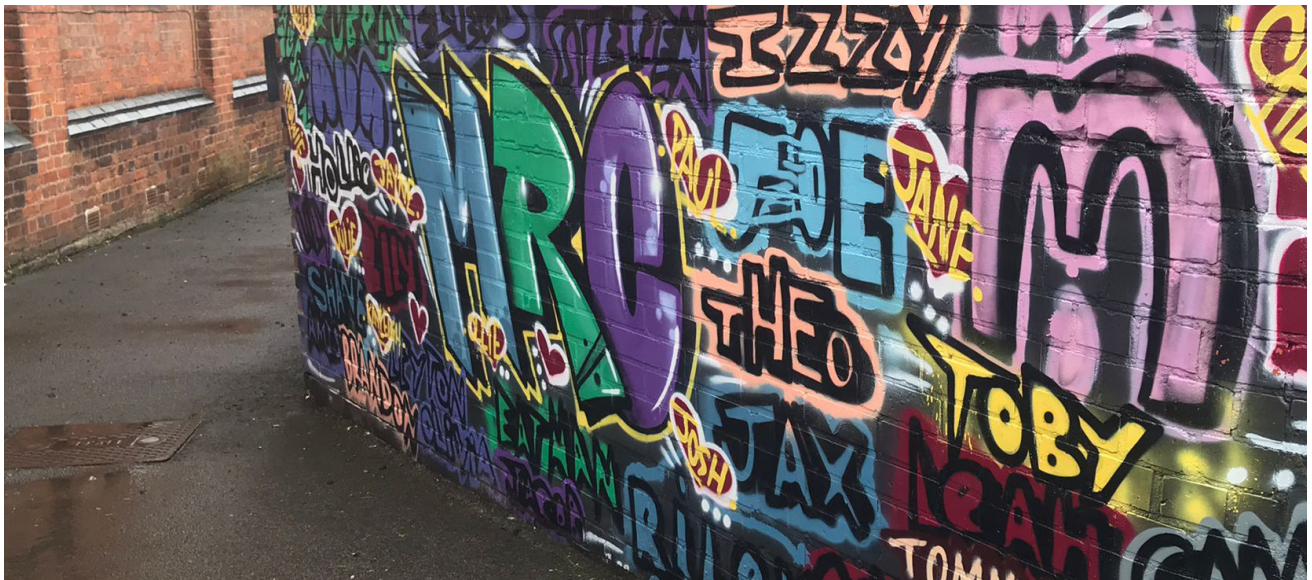
I promised to work to prevent and reduce violence from the outset and prioritised this in my Police and Crime Plan. It is particularly important that we tackle violence amongst young people (under 25) and I want to focus on the areas which have proved to be most adversely affected. Central, East and West Leicester and Charnwood were highlighted in a recent assessment as needing additional support.

That's why my latest funding round will be available to projects and groups in these

areas which have not previously received a grant from my office.

You can apply for up to £10,000 which can be used for a variety of costs such as activities, venues and staff, but not capital costs such as building purchases. The deadline for applications is 15 January, 2024.

There is a lot more information on my [website](#), including application forms, so head on over there to find out more.



Enhancing Community Policing

Being able to see and talk to a police officer matters a great deal to our communities which is why I continue to push hard for an agile and visible policing service.

As part of my Estates Strategy, I have supported an expansion of front counters to strengthen the service local people receive. This has included bringing back a police enquiry desk in Rutland as part of my Police and Crime Plan pledge.

My Commissioner's Safety Fund has seen investment in crime prevention across our city and two counties which is really making a difference on the ground, diverting young people from crime, helping residents to feel safer and supporting the vulnerable and isolated.

I've also continued to carry out my regular Community Days, when I am able to go into communities to hear what local people feel about policing in the area. My multi-

agency 'patchwalks' also help to keep me abreast of any issues, which I then feedback directly to the local policing team. It works.

Neighbourhood Watch provides an army of law-abiding eyes and ears. It does a fantastic job. To support the 785 watches across the city and two counties, I have appointed a new Project Manager to help develop the work of this hugely valuable resource.

Out on Patrol in the City

A recent Patchwalk in Leicester City Centre saw my Deputy Rani Mahal and me meeting up with PCSO Jane Elton from the local beat team to find out more about local issues.

I heard some really positive things about working with teenagers, tackling shoplifting and policing the

new market. It was clear that people value their PCSOs highly.

Yes, there are some problems, which I will discuss with the local commander at our next meeting, but I came away confident that the beat team are totally committed to their area and are working hard to keep it safe.



Victims to benefit from new contract

Everything we do is centred around victims of crime and I have always believed they should receive a gold medal service.

I have just awarded a new Victims Services contract which will deliver enhanced support to victims of crime across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

It includes a host of new and improved services to help victims, including children and young people, recover from their experience.

The successful organisation, Catch22, made it clear that they are committed to the type of service that I want to see, and the quality of service that our residents deserve. Importantly, this new contract will see victims able to access the service at any point and not just in the aftermath of the crime - most notably if their case goes to court.



Have a Safe and Happy Christmas!

As businesses, residents and local councillors, you are a huge part of our success! I would like to thank you for continuing to report crime and information about crime over the past 12 months – your support really does make a difference. I would like to wish you all a safe and peaceful festive season.

Keep in touch

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

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

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

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

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



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