



Newsletter

Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland

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PCC's budget for 2023-24 to sustain policing for Leicester

The 2023/24 budget for policing Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland focusses on giving police officers the training and equipment that they need to keep us all safe. It includes a £620K transfer from the Commissioner's Reserve budget to the force and aims to lay the foundations for a sustainable future.

Rural policing has been transformed, with the launch of a dedicated team of rural officers equipped with specialist kit to help police remote and off-road locations. These officers are supported by a highly proactive team of 4,000 residents across Leicestershire and Rutland who are signed up to WattsApp groups and alert systems. The team is also now launching a "Volunteers

on Horseback" scheme to help keep an eye on more remote rural areas.

The budget also includes provision for maintaining the current number of officers, which is 35 more than the 297 recruited through the Uplift programme. New vehicles, including hybrid models, have been added to the fleet increasing police visibility.

I remain committed to strengthening local policing which is why areas earmarked for investment are also designed to deliver greater efficiencies. These key areas include better technology, support mechanisms and systems to give Leicestershire Police more time with communities to prevent crime and arrest criminals.

Rani Mahal appointed as Deputy PCC

Rupert Matthews has appointed Cllr Rani Mahal as Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner.

Rani Mahal has extensive experience and skills, both as a councillor and through her membership with voluntary and charitable organisations. She has worked relentlessly in and for the community, holding positions within charitable organisations including the Royal Society of Arts (formerly known as the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufacturers and Commerce). Rani is also an advocate

for underrepresented communities as a board member of the Indo British Trade Council and as an international member of the Women's Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (WICCI).

Rani said: "I am grateful to Rupert and his team for having faith in me and giving me the opportunity to put my skills and experience to good use across our communities."

Mr Matthews added: "Rani's passion for protecting vulnerable people and strengthening the voice of underrepresented groups is



very clear from her previous roles. These are areas of my work that I have prioritised in my Police and Crime Plan and I am confident that Rani will be able to take these strands of work forward to deliver further improvements."

PCC fund project to help to reduce anti-social behaviour in Leicester

Rupert Matthews awarded St Matthews Big Local £9,995 from his Safety Fund to deliver four hours of daily sports activities during school holidays and a Friday evening football session to reduce anti-social behaviour on the St Matthews estate in Leicester.

Since launching, the scheme has seen more than 1,000 young people register with over 250 young people attending each week. Community workers say the project has already had a positive impact on community safety with less incidents of anti-social behaviour and disorder seen.

Mr Matthews said: "This project has had a fantastic response since launching and we are already starting to see the dividends of engaging young people in these positive activities with a decline in anti-social behaviour. Sport is a tried and tested way of nurturing self-esteem and confidence and pushing young people to reach their full potential. The sheer volume of young people registering for these sessions shows how desperately needed it is."

Ish Latif, Sports Programme Manager, said: "Sport is a great vehicle for change. For many young people, it is a real motivating factor,

it can inspire young people to think positively, to behave positively and to act positively.

To view the video on St Matthews Big Local and how the funds they receive are being used visit: <https://youtu.be/79GyO5WludU>.



Dramatic Improvements in Beaumont Leys



In February, PCC Rupert Matthews visited the shopping centre and market at Beaumont Leys to meet with Inspector Zakoscielny because of the dramatic improvements that have been brought about by a dedicated action plan to

tackle crime and anti-social behaviour.

The Problem Management Plan was introduced just before Christmas and brought together the police, local shop managers, the

shopping centre management, local councillors and other interested parties – all working with funding provided by the PCC as part of the crime prevention programme.

The plan saw increased police patrols in the shopping centre – both in uniform and in plain clothes – as well as targeted visits to nearby areas such as the market. Crime prevention advice was given to shop managers and other businesses to reduce shoplifting and related crimes. For instance, high value items were moved to the area next to the staff restrooms so that there were frequent visits by the staff, which deterred opportunistic thefts. This activity was backed up by a social media campaign which reached 13,000 local students and over 23,000 adults as well as specific ads targeted at businesses. As a result crime and anti-social behaviour has gone down in the area.

YOUNG LIFE-SAVERS TAUGHT HOW TO RESPOND TO VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE IN PCC-BACKED PROJECT



Up to 150 young people across Leicester are to be trained to become lifesavers in their communities thanks to a project funded by Police and Crime Commissioner Rupert Matthews.

The provided a grant worth £7,500 to national charity Street Doctors Leicester from his Safety Fund to enable the organisation to equip youngsters with the skills they need to become 'street doctors' at the scene of a violent attack.

The funding will deliver 20 group workshops over the next 12 months for up to 150 people aged 11-25. Participants will learn what to do if someone is bleeding or has been knocked unconscious.

To view the video on Street Doctors and how the funds they receive are being used visit: <https://youtu.be/FdcDaMl2EUo>.

PCC invests half a million pounds to help communities prevent crime

Since the start of 2022, the Commissioner has allocated £493,444k in grants to charities and community groups which share his goals to root out crime and increase safety.

The funding has targeted the prevention of anti-social behaviour, violent crime and domestic abuse. Grants of up to £10k have

been allocated to each successful project.

Mr Matthews said: "I have promised to protect the law-abiding citizen and put their needs at the heart of all my decisions. For this reason, I have invested almost half a million pounds this year into community provision which proactively solves local problems."

Out and about

Every week, I spend a full day out of the office meeting people and organisations out in the community to find out what really concerns local people.



Orthodox Synagogue



Ceremony at Shree Lohana Mahajanr



Shree Hindu Temple in St Barnabas Road



Ramadan Radio



Belgrave Housing Association



Iskcon Temple



Holi in Cossington Park



Being given Ramayana at Avanti Fields Temple

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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