



**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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## Spotlight on Rural Crime in Rutland

Rural Crime in Rutland was the focus of my recent meeting with PC Matt Houghton of the Leicestershire Rural Policing Team. I was glad to hear that levels of rural crime remain low in Rutland, a trend I hope to see continue.

PC Houghton updated me on a recent positive case where a trailer was stolen, then later recovered by police due to intelligence received from the local public. It is always good to report back on successful partnership work in our rural communities.

We then met with a local farmer, Tom Glaston, to discuss issues being faced at his farm, including hare coursing and general security of buildings and equipment. Farmer Glaston praised the Rural Policing Team and how visible they are in our rural communities, which was good to hear.

Rural Crime remains a key priority for me as Police and Crime Commissioner. I will shortly be looking to directly support local initiatives and projects that tackle rural crime and will be able to announce to you all what this looks like in the near future.

# Delivering Neighbourhood Policing across Leicestershire



I'm pleased to tell you that Leicestershire Police are mobilising to deliver the Government's Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee. While it remains unclear if this will be funded by the government, I share the aim to strengthen community policing, putting an extra 13,000 police officers into communities by 2029, including an extra 35 in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland over the next year.

I remain sceptical as to how this is being delivered. These extra 13,000 officers need to be in addition to what we have already, and not simply a reshuffle of existing resource.

I will be holding the government to account robustly on this issue.

Since my election, I've championed strong, visible, and accessible policing. I believe every community deserves a named, contactable officer who understands local concerns and works closely with residents and businesses to address them.

I'm pleased the National Police Chiefs' Council has confirmed that Leicestershire Police already meets this key requirement, including providing 'Your Area' information online and complying with the Named, Contactable Officer Pledge.

## Targeted police activity on our streets this summer

Over the course of the summer, you are going to see increased levels of policing activity in Leicester city centre and major town centres.

This is part of the Government 'Safer Streets Summer Initiative', which aims to make our town centres safer and more welcoming during the summer period by tackling town centre crime and anti-social behaviour.

Leicestershire Police, my office and all Local

Authorities within Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland have collaborated and created a plan that will deliver what the Government have requested and more. Retail crime will be a key priority within the campaign, alongside anti-social behaviour and street crime.

I look forward to reporting back to you on the results of this campaign, which runs from the start of July to the end of September.





# Shoplifting and retail crime in focus in Uppingham



I was recently joined by Cllr David Ainslie, Mayor of Uppingham, and Deputy Mayor Cllr Mark Shaw in Uppingham to meet the new beat officer and to discuss local concerns about retail crime.

Businesses have previously voiced concerns to the Town Council about shoplifting, threats to retail staff and the vandalism of the cash machine. These issues were discussed at a recent town meeting which I attended.

Protecting retailers and their employees from crime is a responsibility I take very seriously. I engage with businesses and town centre partners

frequently and I understand the frustration and distress shop owners face when their livelihoods come under constant threat.

I was pleased to be able to visit some of the businesses I spoke to at the recent town meeting so that they could hear what was being done to address their concerns by the local policing team. To read more about what was discussed, read the full story below:

[Shoplifting and retail crime in focus in Uppingham walkabout](#)

## Deterring Shoplifting and Violence on our High Streets



In my Police and Crime, I promised to get tough on business crime. To do everything possible to reduce shoplifting and eliminate assaults on shopworkers.

As part of this campaign, I am funding 110 Body-Worn Video (BWV) Cameras worth £52,000 to independent retailers who are frequently the target of violence and shoplifting. I am inviting Community Safety Partnerships and Business Improvement Districts to apply for up to 25 BWVs for allocation to

eligible retailers in their areas.

The need for tougher action in tackling shoplifting and assaults on shopworkers has been a recurring theme on my Community Days when I meet with businesses and shop workers. These cameras are a simple yet highly effective tool for increasing confidence in shop workers, will capture vital evidence to bring more offenders to justice, and will help create a safer and more secure environment.



## Road Safety Concerns in Caldecott

On a recent Community Day in Rutland, I met with Parish Councillor Bob Hook in Caldecott alongside the local beat officer to discuss road safety issues within the village. Dangerous driving by heavy goods vehicles mounting kerbs within the village and speeding were the main issues of concern.

Working in partnership and across organisations is vital to deliver safer roads across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

I am happy to report that the local beat team will be working alongside Rutland County Council to address the issues raised by Councillor Hook.

I know how important an issue road safety is, especially in more rural areas and villages. That is why Road Safety is a key priority in my Police and Crime Plan, and I am determined to deliver measurable success on this issue.

## £160k Boost for Community Crime Prevention

I have selected sixteen organisations to benefit from £160k worth of grant funding in the second round of my Commissioner's Safety Fund, to support efforts to tackle the root cause of crime and anti-social behaviour in communities.

I believe in a 'prevention over cure' strategy, and will do whatever it takes to protect people from being drawn into crime.

That is why I have sought out and commissioned services that help residents, especially young people, thrive while empowering communities to take ownership of local problems and work together to find solutions.

I am really pleased with the breadth of the projects being supported in this round. For a full list of recipients, click below.



## Keep in touch

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

**Email:** [opcc@leics.police.uk](mailto:opcc@leics.police.uk) | **Telephone:** 0116 229 8980  
**Website:** [www.leics.pcc.police.uk](http://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 X, Facebook and Instagram



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