



**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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New Chief Constable for Leicestershire Police

I am pleased to announce that David Sandall is my preferred candidate to become the next Chief Constable of Leicestershire Police.

David joined Leicestershire Police in 1999 and has spent 27 years serving the people of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. He has led teams across local policing, crime investigations, safeguarding and intelligence. Even now, he is still catching criminals, recently helping detain a teenager who had threatened a football player with a knife.

What impressed me most was David's deep knowledge of our

communities and his clear commitment to keeping people safe.

He understands the challenges we face and has a proven record of delivering results. He is passionate about working with residents, community leaders and partner organisations to make our area safer and stronger.

I am confident David has the experience, integrity and leadership needed to build on the force's success and ensure people not only are safe, but feel safe too.

The appointment is now subject to a confirmation hearing by the Police and Crime Panel.

Prevention in Action

The first policing principle outlined by Sir Robert Peel nearly two hundred years ago was to prevent crime and disorder wherever possible. It remains true to this day that prevention is better than a cure. That's why prevention runs as a **golden thread** through my Police and Crime Plan.

New violence prevention service launched for children and young people

The Violence Reduction Network (VRN) has co-designed and commissioned a new service, known as Elevate, aimed at preventing violence through providing children and young people aged 11-25, with timely and tailored support.

Ingeus has been awarded the contract and will support children and young people at risk of violence, helping them access the guidance, opportunities and encouragement they need to build positive futures.

Through a team of dedicated Navigators, participants will receive tailored, trauma-informed, one-to-one mentoring, practical guidance, and personalised support.

Taking a proactive approach, Navigators will engage at pivotal moments, including in hospital emergency departments and police custody suites, helping individuals stay safe, build confidence and access education, training, employment opportunities and specialist services within their communities.

Tracking Down Rural Criminals

I am proud to highlight two outstanding successes that show our commitment to tackling rural crime and protecting local communities.

In one case, our Rural Policing Team helped recover a stolen telehandler belonging to a farmer from Rutland. After the vehicle was stolen, officers worked quickly with neighbouring forces to track it across several counties. It was recovered at Dover Port just before it was due to leave the country.

In another case, a stolen horse trailer taken near Melton Mowbray was traced using a hidden tracker. Working with police in Scotland and Northern Ireland, officers followed its journey to Belfast, where the trailer was recovered and a man was arrested.

These cases show policing at its best. Quick action, strong teamwork and smart use of technology helped return valuable property



Pictured: The Manitou telehandler recovered by the Rural Policing Team after being stolen from Rutland.

to its owners and disrupted criminal activity.

Rural crime can have a huge impact on farmers and rural businesses, causing financial loss, stress and disruption. That is why tackling it remains one of my priorities.

These successes also highlight the value of simple crime prevention measures such as trackers, property marking and keeping accurate records.

I would like to thank all the officers involved for their dedication and determination. Their work sends a clear message that criminals are not welcome in our rural communities.

Dedicated Patrols for Our Market Towns

I am delighted to confirm that I have secured extra high visibility patrols for our market towns.

People have told me they want to see more visible policing. They want action on shoplifting and anti-social behaviour. They want to feel safe in their town centres. I was determined to deliver on these priorities. These patrols will do this.

By December, Market Harborough, Hinckley, Loughborough, Coalville, Melton Mowbray and Ashby-de-la-Zouch will benefit from additional police patrols. The patrols will be focused on tackling persistent concerns around anti-social behaviour and shoplifting, boosting visibility and helping make town centres safer and more welcoming places to live, work and visit.

I challenged Leicestershire Police to find a solution, one that would ensure we got the best result for local people.

I am pleased that the force has stepped forward with both a practical and cost-effective plan. The extra patrols will be delivered by police officers and PCSOs. Better still, the scheme will cost less than expected, allowing me to reinvest the savings in crime prevention work across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

These patrols will be in place before Christmas, giving reassurance to residents and extra support to shops during one of the busiest times of the year.



New Crackdown on Stolen Tools



I have taken action to protect tradespeople across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland from the growing problem of tool theft.

I have invested almost £54,000 in a new police operation, named Operation Generator, to tackle the sale of stolen power tools and other stolen goods.

For many tradespeople, stolen tools mean lost income, missed jobs and real hardship

for their families. That is why we are targeting the places where stolen goods are often sold and making it harder for criminals to profit.

Police have been focusing on key car boot sale sites across our area. Police officers and PCSOs have been carrying out patrols, speaking with sellers and buyers, offering crime prevention advice and handing out free property marking kits.

The operation has also included enforcement activity with partner agencies to recover stolen property and identify offenders.

Operation Generator is about more than catching criminals. It is about protecting livelihoods, providing high visibility reassurance, supporting honest businesses and preventing crime before it happens.

We all have a role to play. By marking valuable property, reporting suspicious activity and refusing to buy goods that may be stolen, we can help cut off the market that drives this crime.

Backing Our Rural Communities Against Crime

I was pleased to spend time with our Rural Policing Team during Rural Crime Action Week, seeing first hand the work being done to protect our countryside.

Joining PC Houghton on patrol across Melton and Rutland gave me the chance to meet local farmers and hear about the challenges they face.

I also saw how funding from my Community Action Programme is helping to make a real difference.

Through grants awarded to local organisations and groups, farmers have received security tools such as forensic marking kits and tracking devices to help protect vehicles, machinery and valuable equipment from theft.

Rural crime can have a huge impact on farming businesses and local communities. Stolen equipment is costly to replace and can disrupt livelihoods.

That is why I remain committed to investing in practical measures that prevent crime and help catch offenders.

Working closely with farmers, parish councils, community safety partners and the police is key to protecting our rural areas. By giving communities the tools they need to improve security, we can help keep criminals out and make our countryside safer for everyone.





Listening to Residents in Leicester City

I was pleased to join Inspector Ludlam at the Clock Tower in the summer for a Meet the Inspector event.

These events give local people a chance to speak directly with senior police officers, raise concerns and get advice on preventing crime.

As part of Anti-Social Behaviour Awareness Week, we discussed issues that matter to residents, including e-scooters, e-bikes, police visibility and the Public Space Protection Order in the city centre.

It was encouraging to hear that crime and anti-social behaviour in the city centre are lower

than they were at the same time last year. This shows that focused action and strong partnership working can make a real difference.

I also met Leicester City Council Public Space Officers, who had recently started patrols to support efforts to tackle anti-social behaviour across the city.

Listening to residents is vital. These conversations help us understand local concerns and ensure action is focused where it is needed most.

Together with the police, the council and our communities, we will continue working to make Leicester a safer place for everyone.

Road Safety Lessons Changing Lives

I am delighted to see local people gaining new skills and confidence through a road safety project funded through my Community Action Programme.

The programme has helped women from minority communities overcome barriers that can make road safety education harder to access, including language and confidence challenges.

Delivered by Leicester charity Live Cancer Free, the project has provided interactive workshops covering road signs, crossing safely, speed awareness, passenger safety and the Highway Code.

What makes this project special is its practical approach. Participants have used real life scenarios to build confidence and learn skills they can use every day.

The feedback has been excellent. Some participants have even said the sessions have given them the confidence to apply for their

driving theory test.

I am particularly pleased that those taking part are sharing what they have learned with family and friends, helping the benefits reach even more people.

Road safety remains one of my key priorities. Education and prevention save lives, prevent serious injuries and help protect vulnerable road users.

By supporting projects like this, we can ensure more people have the knowledge and confidence to stay safe on our roads.



Free Home Security Devices Helping to Prevent Crime

I am delighted that more than 450 free home security devices have already been given to residents through my Prevent and Protect event scheme.

At events in Loughborough and Thurmaston, eligible households received either free WiFi CCTV cameras, video doorbells or security lights to help protect their homes from burglary.

This is a simple idea that delivers real results. By giving people practical tools to improve security, we can help prevent crime before it happens.

The areas selected for the scheme were identified using police data, ensuring support was targeted where it was needed most.

Tackling neighbourhood crime is one of my key priorities. I know how upsetting burglary can be for victims and their families. That is why I am committed to investing in measures that keep people safe and protect their property.



Prevention is always better than dealing with the consequences of crime after it has happened.

Following the success of these events, my team and I are looking at further opportunities to bring the scheme to other areas where crime prevention support is needed most.

Together, we can make our communities safer.

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 X, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn

