



## Police and Crime Commissioner's Update – May 2022

Hello, my name is Jonathan Evison and I am your Police and Crime Commissioner. My role and that of my office is often misunderstood, we provide a number of services to help people in the Humber region and we commission services for victims of crime as well as working with the police and other organisations to improve community safety. One important aspect of my role is to provide the Chief Constable with the policing budget to enable him to deliver an effective service, while holding him to account on your behalf for the performance of the force.

As your Police and Crime Commissioner, I want to see the great improvements that Humberside Police have made in recent years continue, when I talk to our communities they always tell me they want to see more police officers and in recent years we have seen officer numbers increase. Over the coming year the police will recruit around one hundred officers, these are **additional** officers to serve your community and does not include replacing those that have left. In March, fifty of these officers started their training with the next fifty starting in June. These additional officers are very welcome, and I will work hard to ensure the number continues to grow.

Humberside Police recently won an award for UK Police Service of the Year, recognising outstanding transformation of the force over recent years. This is really positive news and both the Chief Constable and I want those improvements to keep going. For my part, I will continue to both support and challenge the force to become outstanding.

I hope that these regular updates will provide you with more information on what I am doing as your Police and Crime Commissioner and the work that my office is involved in as we continue to work with our partners to make all our communities safer.

### Proceeds of Crime Act

As your Police and Crime Commissioner, I am often angry and frustrated when I read stories of criminals who make money from committing offences such as drug dealing. When the police catch them and the courts convict them, there are powers to recover money and assets under the proceeds of crime act and one of my priorities is to put that money back into our communities for good purposes.

Over the last year Humberside Police disrupted the activities of organised criminals throughout our region to the value of six million pounds, assets that were recovered from those operations are now being put to good use.

Some examples include a range of initiatives to combat burglary which has already been a success with a number of offenders arrested and charged. Funds have also been used to provide anti-drink spiking kits in pubs and clubs to make the night time economy a safer place.

Other schemes to prevent bike theft, improve awareness of mental health issues and organise school visits from police officers to help our children become good citizens have all been funded through recovered proceeds of crime.

This is something that you have told me you want to see more of and I will continue to support the police to turn the tables on anyone who seeks to profit from criminality.

## **Victim's Hub**

One of the most important aspects of my job is to commission services to support victims of crime. These range from the Victim Support service which should be offered to everyone who has been affected by crime, through to the specialist support services for the most serious offences, all of these services exist to help victims to recover from their ordeal and rebuild their lives.

For some time now I've been concerned that if you become a victim of crime, it's not always easy to know what help is available, how to contact the services who will help you and what your journey looks like to help you recover from the harm you have suffered.

Crime affects everyone in different ways; some individuals want to have information on what will happen next in the investigation or court case, others need a more enhanced support network to recover from how this has made them feel. It is really important that the right support service is there for you, that you know how to access it and what will happen when you do.

That's why my office is working to establish a single point of contact for victims of crime. This service will help victims understand what is expected of them and what they can expect as an individual affected by crime. Such as information of the criminal justice process and specific details of services commissioned to support victims. Essential to this support is helping you understand and exercise your rights under the victim's code of practice.

Anyone who is impacted by crime deserves to receive an excellent service and I'll be working to ensure they do. I'll keep you updated on this development in the months ahead.

## **Violence Prevention Partnership**

The Home Office recently announced that the Humberside policing area will join 19 other regions by establishing a Violence Prevention Partnership to identify the causes of violent crime and lead the local response to reducing violence through targeted interventions and education.

I'm looking to secure over five million pounds of funding to establish the unit over the next three years and also provide some extra funding to support the police to take additional enforcement activity in the specific locations that are most affected by violent crime.

The unit will be a partnership between various local organisations to work with people who may be at risk of offending and existing offenders to cut violent crime, reduce the number of victims and create safer communities. There'll be a particular emphasis on working with children and young people and developing early intervention and prevention programmes to stop violent behaviour from occurring in the first place.

It's the start of a long-term project to tackle and prevent violent crime in our communities. Our region doesn't experience the levels of serious violence seen elsewhere in the country such as knife or gun crime, but we do have violence disproportionately affecting women and girls and a national trend which has seen violence steadily increase over recent years means we should not be complacent and this is not an issue which can be solved by police enforcement alone.

I'll be updating you regularly as things progress and the Violence Prevention Partnership start to work.

**Jonathan Evison – Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside**