



**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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Talking business in Oadby

I had an interesting visit to Oadby recently, talking to local shops in the town and businesses on Bell Street. They mentioned a lack of officer visibility and accessibility, so I contacted the NPA Commander to ask if local officers could attend the town forum and pop into businesses from time to time.

I was interested to learn that Oadby businesses have dedicated WhatsApp groups and enjoy a supportive

relationship with one another. Better still, I heard that it is rare that they suffer from shoplifting, but if they do, they tend to catch them by working together. This highlighted (again) that partnerships are key.

Overall, people seemed fairly content with the way that police are tackling crime and keeping crime levels relatively low across Oadby and Wigston.

Out on the Street in Wigston

Listening to you the residents of Leicestershire is a key part of my job. I can then shape the strategy of the Leicestershire Police and related projects to match what you want to see. I do this in various ways, but so determined am I to meet local people and hear their views, I set up my street stall in Wigston – as I do elsewhere. I was pleasantly surprised that a number of people came along to talk to me. I provided them with crime prevention leaflets and asked them to answer my survey to determine what people think about policing.

We also chatted about their views on local policing and anti-social behaviour as well as a host of other issues.

Happily, they were largely complimentary about local officers, and very few problems arose. The majority of people who reported a problem mentioned e-scooters – see separate story on page 4.

If you did not spot me when I was in Bell Street, don't worry as I'll be back soon. And you could always contact me directly – contact details are on page 4.



£200k funding package to prevent youth crime

I'm inviting voluntary and community organisations across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland to apply for a share of £200k to help prevent young people

from being drawn to crime and anti-social behaviour.

I'm really excited by this joint venture between my own office and the Violence

Reduction Network. The 'Diversion from Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and Crime Fund' has been designed to support diversionary activities to encourage young people at risk of crime to engage in positive and purposeful activities.

If you know of a group or project that needs this type of support, please encourage them to get in touch.

Grants of up to £20k are available for applicants who can provide evidence of how their project will support young people aged between 10-24 years old to prevent involvement in ASB and crime. For more information, or to apply, [click here](#).



Ministerial Recognition for violence prevention work

I was delighted to host a visit from Crime and Policing Minister Tom Pursglove last month, where I was joined by staff from the Violence Reduction Network (VRN) for our area and the Temporary Chief Constable, Rob Nixon.

At The Big Local on St Matthews Estate we introduced the Minister to key workers who are helping to steer at-risk young people away from violence and met a young person who is currently taking part in one of the programmes provided by the VRN.

After his visit Tom Pursglove said: "Every life lost to knife crime is one too many. Leicestershire's Violence Reduction Network is meeting the serious violence challenge head-on, to intercept those at-risk and tackle the scourge of knife crime."

A few weeks ago I heard that I had secured a three-year funding settlement for the VRN totalling £3.5 million over the next few years, which will put its work on a more stable footing.



A FINE VINTAGE

I must admit, the temptation to attend local events is heightened by the promise of warm weather and vintage vehicles.

Hats off to the organisers of the Oadby Veteran car rally in Oadby Town Centre. It really was fun for all the family. We had a great time, and I met many residents who all seemed pretty happy too!



A MINE OF INFORMATION IN THE LIBRARY

The 'Safety First' event in Oadby Library was organised by Oadby & Wigston Borough Council. It was fantastic to see local organisations and services promoting well-being, safety and support.

I met a lot of great volunteers and staff, all of whom were clearly doing a great job.



MEETING THE COUNCILLORS

I was pleased to be able to meet up with local councillors for a question and answer session in the Oadby and Wigston Borough Council offices.

They tested me with a fascinating session that covered everything from #escoters to #countylinedrugs and everything in between. Thank you all.

Join my E-scooter campaign

My postbag (or inbox as it is these days) is full of angry comments about e-scooters. Near misses, actual incidents, concerns about both riders and other road users.

Leicestershire Police has a robust policy toward e-scooters that aims to prevent incidents and accidents. But this is about the safety of all concerned and I want the government to keep e-scooters off public roads before more incidents occur.

I've already asked our local MPs to join me and Leicestershire Police to ensure that the public and retailers know the risks around e-scooters and how to use, buy and rent them safely and legally.



If you agree with me, write to your MP and let them know your views. The louder we can be the more effective our message.

Uniform standards

I was delighted when Leicestershire Police announced that the distinctive domed helmet for male officers and bowler hat for female officers were to be reinstated.

As you may know, I have been calling for greater visibility in our communities. My efforts have been rewarded with a renewed commitment to standards and a force-wide

rollout of the recognisable headwear is underway.

In addition to the new headgear, improvements are also being made to officers' body armour. The improvements will make officers more comfortable and safer as well as improving uniform standards.

Do compliment any officers you see sporting this traditional head gear.



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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