

## PCC Announcements - October, November, December, January (to date)

### October

- The PCC hosted an inaugural Cybersecurity and Fraud Summit for business leaders in partnership with the National Crime Agency, the Constabulary, the South East Cyber Resilience Centre and the banking industry.
- The PCC awarded more than £4million to support services to help victims of sexual crimes cope and recover. The contract spans a five and half year period and is available to all victims of sexual violence or abuse, of any age.
- The PCC revealed only 23% of calls to the police are to report a crime as part of holding the force to account on improving the 101 service, raising awareness of the number of unnecessary calls mad to police to shine a light on the pressure 101 call handlers are under
- The PCC recognised the Constabulary's efforts to crackdown on Country Lines gangs during County Lines intensification week where 15 lines were disrupted, 87 arrests were made, 203 stop and searches were carried out and £106k worth of illegal drugs were taken off the streets.
- The PCC visited Basingstoke custody to review the launch of Project RESET, an initiative driven by the Violence reduction Unit which supports young people aged 18-25 who find themselves in custody y diverting them away from reoffending and into education, training or employment.

### November

- The PCC published her Annual Report 2022-23 which reflected on the challenges and achievements over a 12 month period. Some of the key milestones that were reached include the recruitment of 650 more police officers, the opening up of 10 more police stations to the public, supporting the move away from mandatory degrees to get officers out on the streets quicker, reducing anti-social behaviour, and providing millions of pounds to support victims of crime.

- The Commissioner opened the precept consultation for five weeks, focusing on reaching residents through online platforms, traditional media and local libraries. More than 6300 people responded.
- Hampshire and Isle of Wight were awarded £1million as part of Round 5 of the government's Safer Streets funding grants. The bids were supported by the Commissioner's office. Portsmouth, the Isle of Wight, Gosport, Havant, Fareham, Eastleigh, Southampton, Winchester, the New Forest, Test Valley, Basingstoke and Deane, Rushmoor and Hart all benefiting. The funding is aimed at tackling neighbourhood crime, violence against women and girls (VAWG) and anti-social behaviour (ASB).
- During the national week of action to combat knife crime, the PCC urged parents to engage with their children about the dangers of carrying a knife. Hampshire & IOW Constabulary's Operation Sceptre efforts later saw 550 knives surrendered as part of the coordinated action.
- The Commissioner began planning for her third annual award ceremony by opening nominations for local heroes to be honoured in 2024. The ceremony will take place on March 8.
- More than £300K was awarded to Project RESET by the PCC to help steer young people away from knife crime and serious violence. The project is one of the ways the Violence Reduction Unit is working with police to change the paths of young people on the road to criminality.
- As part of the International Day to End Violence Against Women and Girls (IDEVAW), or White Ribbon Day, the PCC highlighted the work of the VAWG task group and the ongoing provision in place to help victims and target perpetrators in HIOW.
- The Commissioner marked Restorative Justice week by opening a showcase event focused on supporting victims and reducing reoffending. Evidence shows that 85% of victims who participate in RJ are happy with the process, which also reduces reoffending by 14%.
- The PCC's Hampshire and Isle of Wight Independent Custody Visitor (ICV) scheme received national recognition at a ceremony in Birmingham. The Hampshire and Isle of Wight scheme was presented with a silver quality assurance award in the second year that schemes have been assessed under the ICVA framework.

- The Commissioner addressed a Continuity of Care workshop hosted by the OPCC in partnership with local government, police, public health, the NHS, and HM prison services. Professionals explored supporting people who leave or enter prison with a substance misuse issue.

### December

- The PCC joined the board of Hampshire Chamber of Commerce as a non-executive director and hopes to help shape the Chamber's strategic growth as the county's independent voice of businesses by combining law enforcement expertise with industry knowledge
- The Commissioner supported the Constabulary's festive operation to crackdown on drink and drug driving. Operation Holly was a combined effort by Roads Policing Units in both Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary and Thames Valley Police which resulted in a total of 810 arrests.
- Kate Gunson was announced as the OPCC's new Chief of Staff following unanimous support by the Police and Crime Panel.
- The PCC announced £454,081 worth of investment towards projects preventing crime across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight in the second round of her Emerging Needs Fund. Preventing gambling addictions, increasing street pastor patrols, more CCTV and helping people avoid scams are among the diversionary initiatives awarded.
- The Commissioner highlighted the progress being made by Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary since the introduction of Chief Constable Scott Chilton's new operating model. The most recent crime statistics show burglary, serious violence anti-social behaviour and domestic violence have reduced, while call waiting times reduced from 23 minutes to 7 minutes, when comparing June 2023 to November 2023. Furthermore, just last month the average speed to answer was only 3 minutes; a seismic shift in service from earlier in the year.

## January (to date)

- The PCC officially opened Cowes Police Station to the public. Joined by Chief Constable Scott Chilton and the Isle of Wight High Sheriff in a ceremony to mark the new police presence on the High Street. The station is the first of 10 the Commissioner pledged to open over the next 18 months.
- The Commissioner held the Chief Constable to account in her most recent Commissioner's Oversight of Policing Services (COPS) session which was live streamed on Facebook. The Commissioner put a number of pre-submitted questions to the Chief on shoplifting, rural crime and the 101 service as well as live questions from the virtual audience.
- The Commissioner launched the first ever Hampshire & Isle of Wight Local Bobby scheme. Every community now has access to named and contactable police officers via a dedicated webpage hosted by the Constabulary.
- The PCC and Chief Constable opened the new 999 centre in Portsmouth as part of their joint vision to make significant improvements to call handling times.
- The Commissioner is being kept informed of the tensions in HIOW as a result of the conflict in the Middle East. The Constabulary's Community Cohesion Advisors continue to work in communities to gather intelligence on any tension arising in order for the force to act accordingly. Information is assessed twice a day and overseen by a Superintendent. Protests are risk assessed and have been low-key. No concerning tensions have been raised but the situation is continually monitored.

## APCC announcements

- PCC Donna Jones in her role as APCC Chair welcomed the Home Secretary terms of reference for the accountability review of police forces of weapons by firearms officers.

- Following the government's launch of the ASB Action Plan, the PCC reflected on its progress on making meaningful change in communities where it is needed most.
- The PCC reflected on the new measures to tackle crime within the King's Speech, highlighting the significant calls to ensure Victims of crime and increasing public confidence in the CJS remain at the centre of the government's focus.
- The PCC appeared before the Home Affairs Select Committee to give evidence on the positive impact PCCs have made since their introduction in 2012. The hearing looked at how effective PCCs have been at holding forces to account and whether they have provided the democratic accountability they are charged to deliver.
- The PCC welcomed the Home Affairs Select Committee report on Policing Priorities, specifically the recognition of the impact PCCs have had on the delivery of local policing.
- The PCC set out her vision to deliver safer communities as Chair at the APCC/NPCC joint summit, highlighting the importance tackling the root causes of criminal behaviour to reduce crime; outlining the government's role in addressing addiction, depression, violence and child neglect to really combat crime rates.
- The PCC responded to the Policing Productivity Review highlighting that the pressure on police forces is growing but stressing the importance of PCCs to reflect on the public's priorities on policing to help build trust and confidence. Specifically, empowering forces to focus on ASB, theft and burglary, and employing technology which removes barriers to improve efficiency.
- In response to the NPCC's police integrity screening data results, the PCC expressed how vital the exercise was to ensure the integrity of police forces. Very low numbers were identified for further investigation amount the 307,452 police and staff workforce who were screened.

D O N N A J O N E S

**POLICE & CRIME  
COMMISSIONER**

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