



Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner Newsletter | February 2020

THE BEAT

More Officers

Sustaining our performance is a top priority which is why my budget for 2020-21 will see even more police officers deployed to our neighbourhoods.



We start the new year with 147 extra officers, who will work proactively in our communities to solve the issues which matter to local people.

This funding is only possible by raising council tax by a small amount in line with the Government's expectations. It amounts to an increase of £9.99 per annum (an increase of 4.55%) for a Band D property. Without this increase, further efficiency savings would be required which would inevitably have an impact on officer numbers once more.

This year's budget has been developed to support the continued improvements in performance, as highlighted above. In addition to extra officers, we will have more specialist robbery and knife crime teams, a greater focus on online and digital crime, environmentally friendly cars and a raft of other measures.

There is clearly a lot more work to do but we are all determined to keep making a difference.



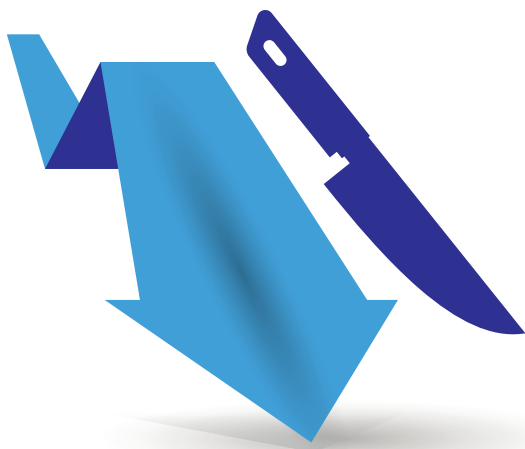
Paddy Tipping
Nottinghamshire
Police and Crime
Commissioner





Knife crime down

It has been a positive start to 2020 with confirmation that Nottinghamshire's efforts to reduce knife crime are delivering results.



Quarterly figures published by the Office of National Statistics (ONS) show the county is bucking the national trend, with knife crime down eight per cent compared to rises nationally of seven per cent and regionally by 16 per cent. The City is seeing a drop of 18 per cent. Other forces across the East Midlands have all seen increases of more than 25 per cent so this gives us some reassurance that the proactive work we are doing in our communities and in our schools is making a difference.

We have also increased the use of Stop and Search tactics by 100 per cent which has resulted in a 30 per cent rise in possession of weapon offences compared to 12 per cent nationally and 19 per cent regionally. Taking more weapons off our streets is just one of a series of ways we can make our communities safer.

Elsewhere, it is a similar story. The force is outperforming the rest of the country on burglary which is down eight per cent compared to a four per cent decrease nationally and six per cent regionally. This follows the introduction of specialist burglary teams covering the city and county carrying out targeted work.

Operation Reacher

New dedicated teams tackling serious and organised crime are being rolled out across the city and county following a highly successful scheme on the Bestwood Estate in Nottingham.



Operation Reacher was launched two years ago to combat gang and criminal activity in the Bestwood and Top Valley areas which was impacting on local people. In addition to disrupting organised crime, officers were tasked with maintaining and enhancing community and partner relationships.

In its first year alone, the team seized almost £1.8m of heroin, cocaine, cannabis and MDMA, as well as firearms. They also secured a number of jail sentences.



Such is its success that the Force is now rolling out new teams including one in Gedling. Three quarters of the 107 new police officer posts have been allocated to these new teams. All 12 neighbourhood policing areas across the city and county will benefit from a team of six officers committed to tackling local issues and crime.

Operation Reacher is already reporting success in Gedling with a closure order agreed on a shop in the next three months. Officers carried out a warrant on January 29 and recovered a quantity of cannabis from the property. A man has been arrested and has been released under investigation.



Community speaks out

Voluntary and non-profit organisations from across Nottinghamshire turned out for a Community Stakeholder Event to help shape the direction of crime prevention over the next 12 months.

The event was held at the Indian Community Centre Association (ICCA) in Carrington, Nottingham, and shared some of the key successes in 2019-20 including enhanced partnerships and improved victim care.

This was really an opportunity for community groups to share their experiences and any evidence from their work which could help inform my Police and Crime Delivery Plan priorities for 2020-21, particularly around youth violence. The information is currently being collated and will help influence my priorities for the year ahead.



'Fast Track' detectives join the ranks

The first cohort of police staff to undertake 'fast track' training for detective roles has joined the ranks of Nottinghamshire Police.

The officers, who were previously civilian investigators known as police investigation officers, have completed nine weeks of fast track training and will now complete the rest of their professional development on the job.

Normally detectives are required to become uniformed response officers first and take additional qualifications after two years' experience when they have fully completed a training portfolio. In the fast track system, candidates complete their initial training and spend 10 weeks as uniformed officers before completing detective qualifications alongside their normal officer's training portfolio. The move is part of a plan to expand the routes into policing to attract talented and dedicated candidates.

In other career news, a new training Autism Toolkit has been unveiled which has been created by academics from the University of Nottingham in partnership with the police and a group of people with autism as part of the Nottingham Autism Police Partnership (NAPP). The partnership has created the first evidence-based training and information guide to help police support autistic detainees in custody.



Police Dog QUANTUM aids arrest

Police Dog Quantum has been busy doing what he loves best - helping to keep Nottinghamshire safe.

Quantum, who fought his way back to full health after receiving several stab wounds while on duty in 2018, helped detain a suspect in connection with a report of two people being chased down the street by two people with weapons.

Following the incident in Clifton, a 23-year-old and a 16-year-old were arrested on suspicion of affray while officers seized a machete and eight swords.

Complaints reforms go... **LIVE**

Long awaited reforms to police complaints and discipline regulations have come into force, simplifying what constitutes a complaint.

The reforms are part of an overhaul of the complaints and discipline system that were outlined in the 2017 Policing and Crime Act. Whereas previously police forces needed to assess whether a 'complaint' received met the definition of the Police Reform Act 2002, the new definition considers a complaint as any expression of dissatisfaction with a police force which is expressed (whether in writing or otherwise) by or on behalf of a member of the public.

Among other changes, the legislation allows for PCCs to take on responsibilities in handling reviews against the outcome of a complaint to add an additional layer of independence.

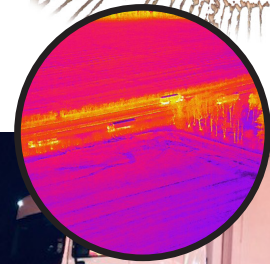
Funding boost for Violence Reduction Unit

Nottinghamshire has received a further £880k in Home Office funding to secure its new Violence Reduction Unit for another year.

The unit, set up in September, brings together key partners including police, local government, health, and community leaders to prevent serious violence by addressing the root causes.

The additional funding will help to secure further outreach and prevention activities targeting hard-to-reach young people to build on the progress already being made to turn vulnerable people from violence.



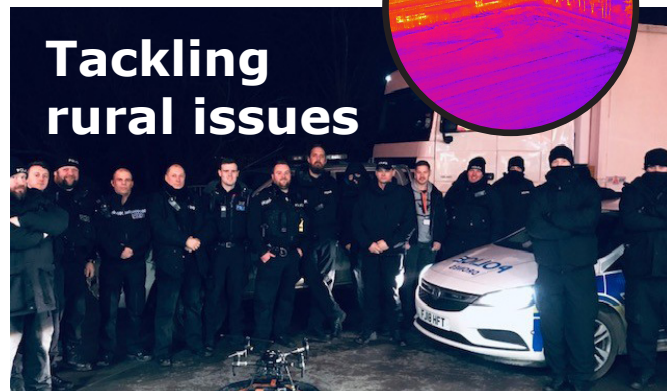


A new £15m national fund for the provision of specialist support and safe accommodation to help victims of domestic violence rebuild their lives is being made available to all local authorities in 2020-21.

The Safe Accommodation Fund replaces existing funding arrangements and will allow for the commissioning of support for victims and their families within a safe accommodation setting.

Almost half of our 77 refuge units are currently funded by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). If further MHCLG funding is not secured, we will be unable to sustain them locally.

I wrote to MP Robert Jenrick, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, highlighting the need for swift decisions to be made to secure these existing services and minimise the risk of losing trained and experienced refuge support workers while funding is allocated. I'm delighted that this week substantial funding has been announced for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.



Two men have been charged following a policing operation on the A1 following diesel theft, when Notts police officers were involved in a policing operation on the A1 to target diesel theft from HGVs.

Officers were equipped with the force quad bike, 4X4 vehicles, capture lorry, undercover HGV drivers, the forces drone team and other covert evidence gathering tactics such as thermal imagery, covert CCTV and smart water DNA systems.

The men were arrested and charged having been caught illegally syphoning diesel, at which point they were also found to be in possession of weapons. Their motor vehicle was seized and was found to be on cloned plates.

I know the impact this type of crime has on local farmers who suffer thousands of pounds worth of crop damage. This operation shows just how serious we are about tackling rural crime.

KEEP ON TALKING

I'm delighted that so many people contact me, with problems, compliments and comments. This is particularly important as I need to be able to listen to your views and learn from them and also know that you can keep up to date with what my team and I are doing.

Whatever I do, I am answerable to you, the electorate. You can contact me at any time to ask questions or put your views across.

You can visit:

www.nottinghamshire.pcc.police.uk

You can follow us on:



@NottsPCC



NottsPCC

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