

ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020



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LINCOLNSHIRE – SAFER TOGETHER



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INTRODUCTION



The only time you should ever look back is to see how far you've come.

Much of the work of the PCC is about planning, new developments, anticipating changes in technology or simply deciding what priorities to focus on in the future.

Yet, although this annual report is dedicated to setting out the work done and the successes achieved over the past 12 months, it would be remiss not to reflect on the progress that has been made in the last few years.

I took on the role of PCC at a time when financial stability for Lincolnshire Police looked to be as far away as ever. I am proud of the work delivered by a small group of dedicated people to create a much more certain future for the Force.

Since 2016 the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner has been successful in securing around £11 million in extra grants and funding from the Government to deliver improved services for our community.

The current Government's commitment to funding additional Police Officers has also helped – and as a result of prudent budget management we can look forward to what is believed to be a record number of 120 new recruits arriving in 2020/21.

The Community Safety, Policing and Criminal Justice Plan unveiled in 2017 set out an ambitious agenda designed to create a modern and effective police force, provide better services for victims and protect our communities.

The progress made this year is just the latest step in a journey the county can be proud of.

Lincoln now has the UK's first ever operational and award winning tri-service station - bringing together ambulance, fire and police under one roof working together in a modern and efficient building. Lincolnshire will soon go live with the most sophisticated command and control system in the country, something that will deliver further improvements to the response the public receive.

Our use of technology is cutting edge with new drones, 4x4s, mobile fingerprint scanners, new pursuit vehicles with automatic number plate recognition cameras and front line officers equipped with hand-held computers meaning our police force is taking the fight to criminals and not being held back by paperwork in stations.

Victims services have been revolutionised with our independent sexual violence advisor service being awarded a quality standard mark. All victims services will soon be supported with a brand new website of information - accessible anytime, anywhere - explaining the available services for victims and how to access them.

Working with partners has meant the launch of a new city centre intervention team in Lincoln to tackle anti-social behaviour, addiction and rough sleeping – a project which has won national awards – and will be reviewed to see if it can be used in other county towns.

A pilot project to trial sobriety tags has been so successful it is about to be rolled out across the UK and our ground-breaking online firearms licensing has attracted interest from forces up and down the UK.

There is still much work to be done – and it will need to be done in a challenging financial climate – but Lincolnshire has been at the forefront of developing effective, efficient and modern policing the community can be proud of.

That drive and ambition will continue.



Marc Jones

Police & Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire

KEY PRINCIPLES OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY, POLICING AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLAN FOR LINCOLNSHIRE APRIL 2017 – MARCH 2021 AND WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED THIS YEAR.

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PREVENTION IN PARTNERSHIP

I plan to bring all partners together to work to reduce crime. This includes councils, health services, probation, voluntary and community organisations, the public and the courts. Public money is always precious and the more we do together the safer we all will be. Prevention is critical to success. Spending time and money after a crime is committed and harm has been done is less effective than working to stop crime through good prevention. We need to focus on those crimes and offenders that cause the most harm and reduce their impact.

Operation Galileo

The investment by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in equipment to tackle rural crime continues to pay dividends.

The fight against hare coursing is just one part, though an important element, of our fight to keep rural communities safe and Operation Galileo continues to enjoy tremendous success.

This year the operation is on course to limit the number of incidents to around 900 – in line with last year and a huge reduction on the 1,965 incidents reported in 2016/17. Lincolnshire has been at the forefront of bringing together a partnership of the top 12 hare coursing forces in a bid to tackle the problem on a regional basis.

Road Safety

The new enhanced Community Road Watch Scheme continues to go from strength to strength. Under the scheme residents are given appropriate training and radar guns to check the speed of passing motorists. Drivers caught speeding by the volunteers will be sent a warning letter and road safety advice, with repeat offenders getting a visit from police. Already more than 250 parishes across the county have signed up to the new CSW scheme and nearly 600 volunteers have been trained.

So far 7,500 letters have been sent out to motorists and 56 have been visited by a Neighbourhood Policing Team officer.

Last year the PCC launched a project to offer free advanced driving lessons to young motorists. The initial offer for under 25's was so popular the PCC agreed to extend the scheme from 50 drivers to 100. The courses are being delivered in partnership with IAM RoadSmart, formerly the Institute of Advanced Motorists, in Lincolnshire, and involve several weeks of training followed by a driving test.

The OPCC also funded additional driving courses for the over 60s. The extra resources allowed the Mileage for Life course to be extended to an extra 50 local people.



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Sobriety tags

The pilot project, funded by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), used the latest alcohol monitoring technology to tackle alcohol misuse and associated offending and has been so successful it is to be rolled out across the UK. The sobriety tags, which detect alcohol levels in the wearer's sweat, alert the authorities when someone has breached an abstinence order. They take an average of 48 alcohol content readings each day. Over the course of the pilot, 226 individuals were issued the AAMR order with 93 per cent successfully complying.

One offender claimed that the wearing of a tag gave him three months sobriety in which his life changed forever as it gave him the space he needed to seek help for his issues. On top of the additional

financial support we hope to receive, it is exciting that innovations being carried out in Lincolnshire are recognised by national Government as best practice.

Intervention Team to tackle drug addiction and alcohol abuse

In the summer of 2018 anti-social behaviour and drug addiction problems experienced an unprecedented spike in Lincoln city centre. In response the OPCC jointly funded - along with the City of Lincoln Council, LPFT, Lincoln BIG - a new intervention and outreach team to tackle the problem. The newly dedicated team was tasked with maintaining public safety, whilst tackling the issues of public drug-taking, alcohol consumption, drunken behaviour and begging. The project has now received two national awards and match funding from the National Lottery – enabling the team to continue the programme until the Autumn of 2021.

In the first year the team has already made great strides and has now worked with 140 individuals – with 57 receiving in-depth support and 12 entering treatment. More than 70 individuals have received in-depth support for mental health-related issues and 30 have engaged in a support plan or entered treatment.

Over the past year, drug related incidents have dropped by 82%, begging by 62% and a significant number of people are now accessing support for variety of issues. Some have said that without this support that they would have died.

Mini Police

The Mini Police project is a remarkable scheme that has now been extended to 115 primary schools across the county thanks to funding provided by the OPCC.



Under the scheme nine to 11-year-olds are elected to become a member of the Mini Police and, complete with a new uniform, these young recruits play a crucial role in helping their communities.

They talk to residents about how to spot scams, challenge people who choose to break speed limits (with supervision!) and educate classmates about bullying, the dangers of strangers and CPR. It's a fantastic way to educate our youngsters about responsibility and the importance of contributing positively to their local community.

Fly tipping round table

In 2018 the PCC called a special summit - attended by all seven district councils, the county council, Lincolnshire Police, the Environment Agency, several drainage boards, the NFU and the County Land and Business Association - to investigate what can be done to tackle the rising tide of illegal rubbish dumping that is blighting Lincolnshire's communities and countryside.

In response all of Lincolnshire's councils and the Environment Agency, joined together to support the SCRAP fly-tipping campaign.

The campaign reminds people to check their waste is being taken away for disposal by a licensed carrier and advises people on how they can dispose of items and stay within the law.

Modern Day Slavery

The OPCC's commitment and drive to highlight the problems of modern day



The OPCC, in partnership with Lincolnshire Police, organised and hosted a conference in Grantham designed to help local businesses comply with the law but also to work in partnership with the authorities to eradicate this evil.

slavery continued during 2019. In 2018 51 people were discovered and referred to authorities in the county but last year that figure was nearer 200. Not only does modern slavery result in horrific consequences for the victims it presents very real dangers for local businesses unwittingly caught up in it.

Last year the OPCC, in partnership with Lincolnshire Police, organised and hosted a conference in Grantham designed to help local businesses comply with the law but also to work in partnership with the authorities to eradicate this evil.

Community Payback Scheme

Community Payback is a punishment which requires offenders to pay back the community for the crimes they have committed with unpaid work. Last year the OPCC committed

£34,000 to pay for an extra supervisor to oversee teams of offenders and for transport to get them to and from places of work – allowing the teams to undertake more projects. It is believed to be a UK first for a PCC to commission criminal justice interventions in this way.

The Community Payback scheme in Lincolnshire is managed by the Humberside Lincolnshire & North Yorkshire Community Rehabilitation Company (HLNY CRC) and tasks are designed to combine hard work for the offenders and the chance to learn new skills.

Around 180,000 hours of free work a year is carried out in communities across the region and several projects have already been completed across the county – from Spalding to Louth. Around 80% of people in our area who carry out unpaid work schemes did not re-offend within 12 months of taking part.

LISTENING, RESPONDING AND BEING ACCOUNTABLE

Everyone deserves a say in what we do, and I will listen and respond to voices across the county and will engage with all communities. I have given the Deputy PCC a specific remit to challenge and support on engagement and rural community safety. I will use my role to hold partners (as well as the police) to account for what they do, so that all public money is used wisely to provide effective, responsive services that are not a one size fits all solution. I understand that difficult choices will need to be made and I know that I am directly accountable to the people of Lincolnshire.

Public opinion survey

The OPCC has recently carried out another successful round of comprehensive public consultation.

The research method was established in 2018 using professionally agreed levels of engagement so the statistical analysis would be robust in sample sizes covering age range, gender, social grouping and geographical residency.

The survey, once again, received tremendous support from Lincolnshire residents and was completed by more than 3,300 people. The survey was completed by 399 people in the 16-34 age range, 680 in 35-49, 1129 in the 50-64 and 1078 in the 65+ - which follows closely the estimated population of Lincolnshire according to ONS data.

The survey will continue to play a significant role in guiding decisions made about policing priorities across the county.

Personal engagement

The PCC continues to make accessibility a priority and travels the county to meet many individuals, organisations and groups who are dedicated to making their communities better places to live. During 2019 he attended more than 200 meetings and events across Lincolnshire alone.





The PCC continues to represent Lincolnshire on the national stage, where awareness of Lincolnshire specific issues can be raised and national policies can be influenced to the benefit of the people of Lincolnshire.

Over the course of the year the OPCC have received over 1,372 pieces of correspondence (excluding routine correspondence from policing bodies), and 36 Freedom of Information (FOI) Requests. In addition the PCC is an avid user of social media which is used to enhance public visibility and reach. For example the PCC has published 8,435 tweets and attracted 5,773 'followers' since taking office in May 2016.

Representing Lincolnshire on the national stage

The PCC continued in his role as the new national lead for the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners group on Serious Organised Crime and Serious Violence. Some threats, be they terrorism or flooding, require national and regional responses and

it is important that all communities in the UK, as well as our own, are protected. Working with others in this way also improves local effectiveness so for example, sharing resources for roads policing with neighbouring forces gives greater flexibility to respond to incidents effectively and ensures that we can be "Safer Together". In this capacity the PCC is able to raise awareness of issues specific to Lincolnshire and influence national policies to the benefit of the people of Lincolnshire.

Partnership working

A great deal of the work done by OPCC is actually devoted to the "crime" element of the title rather than the "police" element.

In that capacity there is a huge amount of work that goes on to seek, establish and improve partnerships with other agencies and organisations to ensure

the public sector provides the most effective and efficient services for our communities possible.

I and my team are engaged with, and sit on boards for, a huge range of organisations such as Safer Lincolnshire Partnership, National Rural Crime Network, child protection agencies, various health and wellbeing boards – each designed to help deliver joined up services for the residents of the county.

For a full list see Appendix A

Creation of Independent Panel to oversee crime recording

The Independent Crime Recording Confidence Panel (ICRCP) was set up by OPCC to ensure public safety is “the primary objective” of crime



The OPCC has a statutory duty to put in place an effective Independent Custody Visiting scheme for the county.

recording procedures in the wake of Home Office changes to recording policies. After more than a year of reviewing policies and procedures the ICRCP released its first report - setting out a number of recommendations designed to support the force in creating open crime recording processes with integrity at its heart. In particular the report sets out recommendations which seek to ensure that victims are properly identified and protected.

Public Assurance Meetings

The PCC holds regular meetings with the Chief Constable to review police performance and last year took the decision to open the meetings to the public – to provide the opportunity for residents to be well informed and ask questions about the performance of their police force.

The meeting is also being used to present information about police performance for the previous three months and includes statistics on crime, police response, demand, how quickly the force processes cases and their outcomes. All the answers and reports from the meetings are published in the days following the discussion and the meetings will be held four times a year.

Open and Transparent Quality Mark

This year Lincolnshire’s OPCC was, once again, awarded the prestigious



Open and Transparent Quality Mark by CoPaCC. The organisation was established after the first PCC elections in November 2012 to monitor policing governance. The quality mark recognises those OPCCs which have demonstrated they are transparent in what they do, meet relevant legal requirements and present key information in an accessible format on their websites. Lincolnshire was one of 28 OPCCs across England and Wales to be awarded the quality mark.

Lincolnshire Independent Custody Visiting Scheme

The OPCC has a statutory duty to put in place an effective Independent Custody Visiting scheme for the county.

The primary aim of the Scheme is to increase public confidence in the treatment of persons detained in police custody.

In 2019/20 some 170 custody visits were undertaken by volunteers across the county. Over 290 (94%) of persons detained in police custody who were available at the time of a visit, consented to be seen by our volunteers. The OPCC also received a national Silver award for the quality of our Independent Custody Visiting scheme. The inaugural Independent Custody Visiting Association (ICVA) Quality Assurance awards were presented at a ceremony at the House of Lords on Wednesday 15 May 2019.

PROTECTING AND SUPPORTING VICTIMS AND THE VULNERABLE

No one chooses or wants to be a victim of crime. If you are a victim I will work with other agencies to ensure the best possible service is available to help you cope and to recover from the experience, and work with partners in the criminal justice system to meet your needs. The court system should deliver timely justice and support those affected by crime so that trust grows that the criminal justice system is on their side. All involved must work together to ensure that those who are more vulnerable to crime are identified and helped to prevent them from becoming victims in the first place.

Support to victims

in last year's annual report the creation of a new provider forum - to bring together not only those victim services which the PCC commissions, but other victim support providers – was outlined. That forum has grown considerably over the past year and is proving really effective in sharing knowledge and best practice.

A new victims' website, developed and funded by the OPCC, is due to go live soon. The website is a source of practical information and advice for anybody living, working or studying in Lincolnshire affected by crime - regardless of whether it is reported to the police or not. It is a way for victims and survivors, as well as

- their friends and family, to find support services that can help them cope and recover after a crime.
- The portal will also encompass a guide to how to protect yourself against becoming a victim of crime.





SUPPORTING
THOSE WHO
SERVE.

Both the Chief Constable Bill Skelly and the PCC have signed the Armed Forces Covenant, which pledges to support those who have served in the military.

Across the year the OPCC has been conducting a campaign of raising awareness of the services available to victims of crime. Staff have attended numerous events, visited local authorities and given talks to organisations in a concerted effort to ensure the services available are promoted as widely as possible.

Stalking Conference

The OPCC supported the county's first ever Stalking Conference where experts and officials gathered to share experience, best practice and advice on the growing problem. The event, designed to bring partners together to tackle the crime, was attended by more than 100 delegates. The conference,

held in Lincoln and funded and organised by the OPCC, Lincolnshire Police and Lincolnshire Partnership Foundation Trust was also used to launch a Crimestoppers campaign to encourage more individuals to identify and report cases of stalking across Lincolnshire.

Support for ex-military personnel

Both the Chief Constable Bill Skelly and the PCC have signed the Armed Forces Covenant, which pledges to support those who have served in the military. The covenant is an assurance that those who are or have been members of the Armed Forces, and their families, should be treated with fairness and respect.

The PCC has also signed up to Project Nova – a scheme which supports ex-military personnel who have been arrested or taken into custody. The project ensures they receive the support they need through the legal process and helps with accommodation, employment, drug and alcohol, debt and mental health issues.

In addition, the deputy PCC Stuart Tweedale has talked to more than 1,000 former service personnel in the past 12 months to help them avoid becoming the victim of fraud and scams.



Deputy PCC Stuart Tweedale, SCAMBassador

Lincolnshire has the second largest population of veterans in the UK – with eight per cent of the country’s ex-servicemen and women living in the county.

Support for male domestic abuse victims

The OPCC was also successful in securing a share of £380,000 from the Male Victims of Domestic Abuse Fund. The money was used to provide training sessions in Lincolnshire for professionals working within the field of domestic abuse.

Support for victims of sexual crimes

Lincolnshire’s Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) service, which is funded by the OPCC, has received a prestigious Quality Mark for its services. The accreditation process is detailed and thorough so to receive the award is testament to the quality of practical, caring and emotional support provided by the staff.

In the coming months the OPCC has commissioned a mental, physical and sexual health needs assessment to identify the needs of sexual violence and abuse survivors in Lincolnshire. This will help to inform future commissioning of support services.



Better understand the victims' experience

The OPCC is working with the force to launch an improved victim satisfaction survey. The survey will be coordinated by Victim Lincs, which is the in-house support team provided by the OPCC. Access to the survey will be available to suit the preferences and needs of victims and survivors to ensure we can fully understand their experiences and provide better services.

Liaison and Diversion Service

The PCC has played a lead role in lobbying for a new Criminal Justice

Liaison and Diversion Service (L&D) which will start in Lincolnshire on 1 April 2020. The service will be for vulnerable adults and children at the earliest stage in the criminal justice process: that is, at the point they are first suspected of having committed a criminal offence. The seven-day a week service aims to reduce reoffending by offering a co-ordinated service to divert people, where appropriate, out of the criminal justice service and into health, social care, education and training or other supportive services.

The service has been commissioned by NHS England and will be delivered by Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (LPFT) and Lincolnshire Action Trust (LAT).

POLICING THAT WORKS

Effective enforcement, help and assistance when you need it are critical to policing that works. I will hold the Chief Constable to account for the services he provides and ensure he continues to innovate and transform the service and gives the frontline officers the ‘right tools for the job’ to respond to the diverse needs of our communities. The welfare of Lincolnshire Police officers and staff is a key concern for me and a continued and meaningful focus must be maintained to ensure the wellbeing, resilience and reputation of the Force. I will continue to fight for a sustainable future for Lincolnshire Police to ensure we have the money to support effective policing and crime prevention in this county.

Blue Light collaboration

The new award winning tri-station building in South Park is now operational and will be fully completed by the end of March. It houses around 500 staff from Lincolnshire Police, Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue and East Midlands Ambulance Service and is the first operational hub between all three emergency services in the country. The collaboration is making savings on running costs and through not maintaining old buildings, whilst improving services to the public. The new building will cost less to run than the current police station on West Parade alone.

The project represents a major investment in the future of Lincolnshire’s emergency services, costing around £21 million, and has attracted £7.5m of national government funding. The South Park

building includes joint training rooms providing opportunities for all three blue light services to create a cohesive unit when it comes to responding to 999 calls out in the field.

New pursuit vehicles

The PCC committed to investment in new BMW X5 pursuit and armed response vehicles and roads policing motorbikes. Two new pursuit vehicles have already joined the fleet with two more due soon. In addition two BMW RT1200 roads policing bikes have been purchased as part of a planned replacement programme. Ten electric cars have also been introduced and the positive feedback from officers means a further ten are planned for this year.

Last year the OPCC supported the force in the introduction of vehicle telematics across all of its fleet. The implementation



of this system has just commenced and is expected to deliver operational and financial benefits in 2020.

Drones

The drone unit has grown to five drones (two with thermal imaging) and that will be extended to nine (six with thermal imaging) by April this year thanks to investment from the OPCC. Currently the force has ten trained pilots, with a further ten qualified by April. The drones are proving to be invaluable in saving life, locating vulnerable missing people, combatting a range of crimes in hard to access locations and even gathering pivotal evidence to prosecuting offenders. In total the drones have flown between 300 and 400 missions over the last year.

Trained officers work as part of standard response and patrol shifts have a drone

in the boot of the police car as an additional specialty, like carrying a taser. The technology frees up valuable officer time which is then available to respond to other urgent calls.

Command and control

The new command and control system will be the most up-to-date in the UK. In conjunction with new handheld computers it will represent a huge step forward in the effectiveness and efficiency of Lincolnshire Police. It will enable officers to get instant access to report incidents and will give control room staff the capability to deploy the most appropriately trained and equipped officers to scenes as quickly as possible. It is expected to be installed later this year.



Enhanced dog unit

The dog unit has now started the process of “dual handling” dogs, which means that alongside their general purpose dog each handler will also have a specialist dog. Recently the unit has successfully licensed two new specialist dogs to increase the capability in searching for drugs, cash and firearms.

In addition two more dogs with handlers have been trained as digital media detection dogs. This is a first for the force and these dogs will be trained in searching for media devices such as sim cards, memory cards and hard drives. These will support the fight against Child Sexual Exploitation, child sex offences, fraud, economic crime investigations and County Lines Drug offences.

It is planned that by the end of 2021 all handlers will have two dogs.

New additional tasers

An extra 170 tasers will be made available to Lincolnshire Police after the PCC led a successful bid for Home Office funding. The successful £140,000 bid was the sixth highest amount awarded to a police force in England, outside of London. The additional tasers will play a significant role in keeping both communities and officers safe and will be a huge benefit in policing our rural county.



Flurry is a new addition to the dog section - due to start training as one of Lincolnshire Police's first ever Digital Media Detection Dogs

FUNDING

The PCC has spent four years wisely investing in cutting edge technology to create a modern police force that is the envy of many around the UK.

That investment has ensured front-line officers are better equipped to keep communities safe and fight crime.

Now, after robust financial management, services can be enhanced further by embarking on the one of the biggest recruitment drives in the force's history.

Lincolnshire Police will add 120 frontline officers this year and the new recruits will help the Force in its target to deliver 1,130 officers by the end of the next financial year, with longer-term plans for further recruitment.

Part of the reason the extra resources can be added to the front-line is the PCC has been able to raise extra money from an increase in Council Tax of 4.1 per cent.

This represents an increase of less than 20p a week for 85 per cent of council tax payers and has allowed an additional £1.8 million to be invested.

Once again the PCC is indebted to the public for their support in raising additional revenue. In this year's annual survey, completed by 3,300 people, 80 per cent backing a council tax rise of at least five per cent.

In fact two thirds of participants chose increases of 15 per cent or 20 per cent - at least THREE times the proposed increase of 4.1%.

Cash from the council tax has been boosted by a successful Special Grant application, secured by the OPCC, and the extra money from the Government's officer uplift programme.

The proposed increase has created a budget of £133.1m which includes spending of £63.2m on police officers, £13.9m on police staff and PCSOs, £23.3m on support functions such as the control room and custody and £26.8m on other costs including fleet, premises and regional collaboration.

In addition to the extra officers and in consultation with the Chief Constable, the PCC has pledged to plough the extra resources into:

Making our roads hostile to criminals hoping to target our community with new marked and unmarked cars fitted with the latest offender detection technology.

Provide funding to expand specialist units including firearms, the dog section and the economic crime team to take the fight to criminals to seize their assets.

Recruiting and training additional Special Constables and 'specialist' volunteers with further expansion of police cadets.

Investing further in 101 and online reporting to give the public the swift and sure service they deserve.

HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY AND FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES (HMICFRS) REPORTS

Background

From May 2018, HMICFRS changed the way in which they inspect forces, moving towards a more risk-based approach. This revised approach consists of a single annual PEEL inspection where HMICFRS inspect the aspects of policing in each force which they consider present the greatest risk of failure.

PEEL report

The latest PEEL report for Lincolnshire Police was published in January this year with the inspector reporting they were "encouraged by the progress Lincolnshire Police has made".

The force was graded as:

Effectiveness – good. "Lincolnshire Police is good at reducing crime and keeping people safe. The force investigates crime well. It is good at protecting vulnerable people. But it needs to improve crime prevention and how it deals with anti-social behaviour. Officers and staff treat vulnerable people well. The force uses its powers well to protect

people. Officers and staff are good at assessing risk at domestic abuse incidents. It responds well to people with mental health issues."

Efficiency – requires improvement. "Lincolnshire Police operates efficiently given the level of funding it receives. It is one of the lowest funded forces per head of population in England and Wales. Its financial situation, awaiting the review of the police funding formula, impacts on its ability to plan with any certainty. Because of this, the force focuses on the present rather than the future. The force is good at meeting current demands and using resources. Its improvement programme is finding better ways of working. The force needs to continue to improve how it plans for the future.

Legitimacy – good. "Lincolnshire Police is good at treating the public and its workforce legitimately. It is good at behaving ethically and lawfully. Its leaders are good role models. Officers and staff understand the standards of behaviour expected of them.

Overall the inspector concluded: "The force provides a good policing service to its communities bearing in mind that it is one of the lowest cost forces in



England and Wales. The low funding base for the force means that it consistently struggles to provide as effective a service as better funded forces. Although the force still has work to do, it is to be commended for what it achieves with the money available to it.”

Crime Data Integrity re-inspection

After a poor judgement in 2018 this year inspectors concluded that Lincolnshire Police’s crime recording arrangements were Good.

Inspectors said the “force is determined to get crime recording right, to understand clearly how crime affects its communities and to respond appropriately to this demand”.

The force was praised for “significantly” improving crime recording and the inspectors said they were “confident the force will achieve further progress”.

Actions

The OPCC continues to monitor progress against all the inspectorate’s outstanding recommendations through a variety of means including a regular report produced for the Police and Crime Strategic Board which the PCC chairs. The PCC is required by law to publish a response to all force specific HMIC inspection reports within 56 days of their publication, these responses are therefore published on the OPCC website at:

lincolnshire-pcc.gov.uk/transparency

KEY CRIME AND FORCE PERFORMANCE STATISTICS 2018

Although crime has risen it is important to note the context for this increase as there are several changes to crime recording that have affected statistics in 2019.

The first is the way in which crime classifications have altered as a result of Home Office changes to the way some crimes are categorized. An example of this is Anti Social Behaviour. In Lincolnshire, for instance, there has been a significant drop in ASB but this is largely due to the recording of crimes that used to be included in ASB now being recorded in other categories – resulting in “apparent” increases in other crimes. Overall research of these types of crimes appears to show that ASB “type” crimes have remained stable.

As a result of changes to Home Office rules last year there has also been a dramatic change to the way many crimes are recorded. The Force now has to record every crime reported by an individual – even historic ones – as separate offences even when dates and details are sketchy.

This has caused, in some categories, the appearance of spikes in crimes and giving the impression there has been a large increase in the number of victims of that crime, when that is not the case.

In addition to these changes there are many new types of offence now included in the category of violent crime. For example offences involving communications via the internet are recorded as Violence (without injury) and has led to large increases in the violence statistics in line with the increased use of social media.

There is little doubt that, despite these changes, there has been underlying growth in some crime types – with overall crimes up by 24 per cent to 60,315.

There are positive highlights within the crime figures. In the 12 months to December 2019 burglary is down by nearly two per cent to 4,251 and residential burglary down nearly seven per cent to 2,823.

Theft has also gone down by 0.16 per cent and anti-social behaviour has plummeted by 28 per cent to 12,964 (see reference above to changes in recording of ASB).

Sexual and violence offences have gone up – violence against the person without injury is up 22,422 (51 per cent), violence with injury up to 6,372 (12.5 per cent), sexual offences have increased to 2,380 (25 per cent).

The total number of drug offences for the 12-month period was 1,950 (up 9.5 per cent) and arson and criminal damage 6,846 (12.6 per cent up).

Vehicle crimes rose by four per cent to 3,145.

There continues to be a focus on addressing road safety by cracking down on the driving offences. Arrests and tickets for speeding are averaging at 107 a month (up 37 per cent), for non-wearing of seatbelts 11 a month (up 0.3 per cent), use of mobile phones 26 a month (up 2.3 per cent) drink and drug driving 156 a month (up 16 per cent) and dangerous driving 17 a month (up 10.5 per cent) In addition 215 vehicles are being seized, on average, per month – a seven per cent increase.

Since the peak of recorded offences in July 2019 (6081 recorded) overall recorded crime has started to decline, with a slight increase in December 2019.

Lincolnshire residents have a seven per chance of being a victim of a recordable crime (excluding fraud).

In consultation with the PCC, the Chief Constable has developed a series of strategies for the coming year.

Place Based Approach - involving communities and partners to understand demand and community need through effective engagement activities

Crime Prevention – a three-year crime prevention strategy based on building community resilience, reducing re-offending, supporting neighbourhood policing teams and working with partners to safeguard communities

Violence – a Violence working group has been established to ensure all activities under the different strands of violence such as Knife Crime, Sexual Violence, Night-Time Economy violence are coordinated.

In terms of demand the force has seen a 2.39 per cent decrease in the number of calls for service – with an average of 12,000 calls a month.

In response to urgent rural calls received in the preceding 12 months 70 per cent were responded to by officers within 20 minutes, and 74.64 per cent of urgent urban calls within 15 minutes. This represents a slight improvement in performance for rural response (up 1.22 per cent) and a very slight decline in urban response times (down 0.33 per cent).

The crime statistics used in this section refer the calendar year 2019 rather than the financial year (12 months from April 1 2019) as the financial year data was not available at the time of publication.

APPENDIX A

Adult Safeguarding Board (ASB)	Lincolnshire Counter Fraud Partnership
APCC SOC and Specialist Capabilities Portfolio Group* (Chair)	Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board*
APCC Victims Portfolio	Lincolnshire Police Ethics Panel
Children's Safeguarding Partnership (CSP)	Lincolnshire Police Independent Advisory Group (IAG)
Core Priority Groups of the SLP: Domestic Abuse, Reducing Offending, Anti-social Behaviour, Serious and Organised Crime (Modern Day Slavery & Fraud)	Lincolnshire Police Risk Management Board
Cyber Security Forum	Lincolnshire Public Protection Board
East Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership*	Lincolnshire Resilience Forum
East Midlands Criminal Justice Board Victim & Witness Delivery Group	Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership
East Midlands Criminal Justice Board*	Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub Group*
Emergency Services Demand Management Group*	Lincolnshire Urgent & Emergency Response Board*
EMSOU Management Board*	Lincolnshire Victims and Survivors Strategy Group* (Chair)
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Board	Mental Health Crisis Concordat Meeting
Greater Lincolnshire Leaders and Chief Executives Meeting*	National Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery Network (NATMSN)*
Independent Crime Recording Panel	National Policing Board* (as required)
Lincolnshire Armed Forces Covenant Partnership Board*	National ROCU Executive Board*
	National Security Strategy Implementation Group for Serious & Organised Crime (NSSIG SOC) Extended Group*



National Strategic Tasking
Coordination Group*

NCA Board*

Out of Court Disposal Scrutiny Panel*

Partnership NK Steering Group

Prevention, Protection & Partnership
Board*

Regional PCC and Chief Constables
Board*

Regional Strategic Tasking
Coordination Group (EMSOU)*

Responsible PCC for regional East
Midlands Special Ops Unit EMSOU*

Safer Lincolnshire Partnership (SLP)
Delivery Board*

SLP Overview & Scrutiny Board*

SLP SOC: Fraud

SLP Strategy Board*

SOC Review Steering Group*

Specialist Capabilities Oversight
Board*

Specialist Capabilities Programme
Delivery Board*

STP Mental Health & Learning
Disabilities Board*

Strategic Partnership Executive Board*
(Chair)

Town Deal Board

Workplace Wellbeing Board

Youth Offending Service (YOS)
Management Board

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