

# THE BEAT

## Policing is an incredibly difficult and challenging job.

*Without the commitment and tenacity of our workforce, any progress or improvement would be impossible. Nottinghamshire is truly privileged to have a police force that strives to offer the very best for its residents and I fully appreciate and value the risks our officers face every day to keep us all safe – risks that have been brought home to us with the devastating events recently in London. With a fresh recruitment drive underway in Nottinghamshire, we will continue to cultivate the best talent within our borders and beyond in recognition of the fact that good people are always behind a great organisation.*

**Paddy Tipping**

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner



## Summer's around the corner!

There will be plenty of opportunity to come along and meet your PCC over the next few weeks as the annual summer events calendar gets underway.

**On Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 May, members of my team and I will be attending the Newark Show to meet local people and discuss their community issues.**

**On Saturday 29 July, we'll be at Nottingham Pride in Hockley and on August 20 we'll be attending the Caribbean Carnival.**

**If you're out and about at any of these events, come and along and meet us. Your feedback really is important for making life better for everybody.**

## Valuing our police

**Every day, police officers put themselves at risk for our protection. The tragic events of Westminster have shown us the ultimate sacrifice some have made in the line of duty and remind us how fortunate we are to have their courage, fortitude and dedication in service.**

In the past few weeks we've seen the police at their very best, not only those officers responding to the horrific incident in London but also those closer to home who've faced demanding and resource-intensive investigations of their own.

The disappearance of two boys in Nottinghamshire last month, for example, sparked a nationwide search which was thankfully resolved when officers later traced the children. Many other areas of policing including missing person investigations continue to consume vast policing resources and test our response capabilities but the exceptional commitment of our officers, and special constables, our PCSOs, staff and volunteers always shines out.

The measure of an organisation's strength is how it copes when the going gets tough. I'm truly proud of all of our officers, staff and volunteers for rising to the challenges posed and carrying out their duties with courage, integrity and passion.

## Joining the ranks – Recruiting NOW!

**Our 2017 police officer recruitment drive is well underway and in the coming months we will see fresh new talent joining our team as police officers, PCSOs and police staff.**

As Commissioner, I'm delighted we're now recruiting new officers and staff. This will strengthen our frontline officers, deliver a stronger police presence within our communities and enhance the way services are delivered.

Police officers have a demanding job but it is also one of the most rewarding and satisfying careers out there and I hope we're inundated with applications, particularly from within our under-represented communities.

We've made real tangible efforts and progress in recent years to reach out to communities under-represented within the force and I'm pleased we're renewing those efforts during this current recruitment process.

## NEW TOP TEAM

**It's been all change at the top of Nottinghamshire Police with three new faces joining the force in 2017.**

In early 2017, we welcomed the arrival of Nottinghamshire's new Chief Constable Craig Guildford who joined the force from Gwent Police where he held the position of Deputy Chief Constable.

Craig has hit the ground running in what promises to be another challenging year for the force, both financially and operationally. With his strong management experience and proven results, Craig will be looking to exploit opportunities to improve effectiveness and make a difference to public safety.

Rachel Barber has joined the force from South Yorkshire Police as the new Deputy Chief Constable. The move follows the departure of outgoing Deputy Simon Torr who retires from the force in May. Simon has played a huge role in the improvement of local

policing services over the past four years and I would like to thank him for all his hard work during his time with us.

With 29 years' experience in service, Rachel has worked in a number of operational roles at different ranks and brings a wealth of operational and organisational knowledge to Nottinghamshire.

Lastly, I'm delighted to announce the appointment of Steve Cooper to the Chief Officer team as Nottinghamshire's new Assistant Chief Constable.

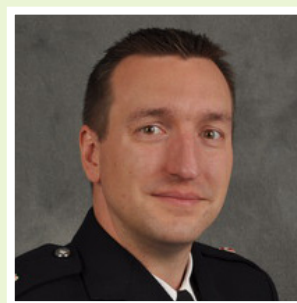
Steve, who joined Nottinghamshire Police in 2001, has a wealth of experience in various roles, leading policing in the City until 2015 when he took on operational responsibility for collaboration.



**Craig Guildford**  
Chief Constable



**Rachel Barber**  
Deputy Chief Constable



**Steve Cooper**  
Assistant Chief Constable

## HMIC Report

Work is well underway to address the findings of the recent Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) report into police effectiveness in Nottinghamshire.

The report followed an inspection in September 2016 at which time the force was found to be 'Good' at investigating crime and reducing re-offending and 'Good' at tackling serious and organised crime. Elsewhere, the report was a mixed picture which identified work to prevent crime, tackle antisocial behaviour and keep people safe as requiring improvement. It was also rated as "Inadequate" at protecting those vulnerable from harm and supporting victims.

While the assessment was disappointing for what is an incredibly hard-working force, these issues were immediately addressed and action is ongoing to ensure the organisation is in a much stronger position today.

Under the leadership of the new Chief Constable, I'm assured that the force is completely committed to improving the organisation further with consistency across all areas during 2017.

## Calverton Walkabout

**My travels have continued across the county and in February I joined parish councillors and residents on a walkabout through Calverton to find out what issues are affecting local villagers.**

Calverton is a good place to live and has an excellent local policing team which actively responds to public concerns. Lots of organisations are working together to make it even safer and local people do recognise and appreciate these efforts.

Many of those residents I met talked about their desire to see more uniformed police officers on the streets and problems with parking and drink-related antisocial behaviour addressed. We will continue working with partners to tackle these concerns and will ensure local people are fully updated on our progress.



## Victim CARE – a tailored service for victims

There is a wealth of new services to support victims of crime across the county and ease the recovery process for those struggling in the aftermath of crime.

In February, I was fortunate enough to meet the dedicated caseworkers behind the Nottinghamshire Victim CARE (Cope and Recovery Empowerment) service run by social business Catch 22. This service, which has been in operation since January 1, centralises all of the help available to make it easier for people to access practical and emotional support.

During my visit, I was highly impressed by the professionalism of the caseworkers and highly-trained volunteers who are at the forefront of my efforts to enhance the response to victims of crime. Vulnerable people can now access specialist help quickly and easily through this new dedicated

team and receive opportunities for closure via our restorative justice services.

You don't have to report the incident to the police in order to access Victim CARE's services. The service is independent and your details will be kept confidential if you wish. But you will receive appropriate support to help you recover from your experience.

The next phase of Victim CARE's development is for Catch 22 to establish close working partnerships with community based organisations, in order to support a wider range of victims. If your organisation would like to explore this with Victim CARE please contact them on the number below.

If you would like to contact Victim Care either telephone 0800 304 7575, 0115 934 2605 or email [admin@nottsvictimcare.org.uk](mailto:admin@nottsvictimcare.org.uk)





**A host of community organisations have been successful in their bid for financial support from my Community Safety Fund.**

The £250,000 fund offers grassroots groups and third sector organisations the opportunity to apply for grants of up to £25,000 to tackle crime and disorder and support my Police and Crime Plan aims.

In 2017-18, I've been particularly keen to support projects which promote community cohesion and address hate crime as well as those which help young people to avoid crime. The projects will be delivered over the next 12 months and I will monitor their progress.

Successful applicants include self-help organisation Al-Hurraya which has secured £10,000 for its Helping You Helping Yourself project which offers mentorship and counselling to young people at risk of crime and Breaking Barriers Building Bridges which will receive £8,000 for its Breaking Taboos project working with young people, parents and carers within British, Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic communities to address taboo issues such as sexual abuse and domestic violence. Nottingham charity Himmah successfully applied for £12,500 for its work tackling hate crime, specifically anti-Muslim hostility.

A formal grant presentation will take place on May 10 at Nottingham Wildlife Centre.

## Budgeting for a safer Nottinghamshire

**This year once again we will see a strong reliance on crime prevention to achieve my ambitions for a safer county.**

The burden of achieving multimillion pound savings will continue but we are able to press ahead with our recruitment plans and funding will be invested into areas which tackle the key priorities of my Police and Crime Plan.

In order to cover the shortfall in funding from Central Government, this means local people will pay slightly more (+1.95%) in the amount of Council Tax they pay towards policing. Consultation with local people shows their support for the increase which will generate around £2m.

In reality, while I'm grateful for that support, the Government tied the hands of every PCC when it recommended Commissioners increase Council Tax by around 2% every year to prevent any further reductions in funding.

For Nottinghamshire householders living in a Band D property this increase equates to less than a penny a day (totaling £3.51 a year).

Police funding has changed irrevocably and is unlikely to ever return to the levels we saw in the previous decade. Resources will remain precious and risk-driven but we are increasing our visible presence with the recruitment of new officers.

Band	2016-17 £	2017-18 £	Increase
A	119.94	122.28	2.34
B	139.93	142.66	2.73
C	159.93	163.04	3.11
<b>D</b>	<b>179.91</b>	<b>183.42</b>	<b>3.51</b>
E	219.89	224.18	4.29
F	259.87	264.94	5.07
G	299.85	305.70	5.85
H	359.82	366.84	7.02

## Justice for domestic abuse victims

In February, I and 14 other PCCs joined forces with Greater Manchester Mayor and PCC Tony Lloyd in writing to Secretary of State for Health Jeremy Hunt to abolish charges to domestic violence victims for written evidence of their suffering.

It follows changes in legislation which mean that domestic abuse victims can now apply for legal aid, but to qualify for this they need evidence. Among the accepted forms of evidence is a letter from their GP with some charging fees ranging between £75 and £175.

Charges of this size could not only deter vulnerable victims from seeking the justice they deserve but result in them staying in abusive relationships. This is unfair, unjust and clearly unacceptable.

## Cybercrime Conference

Nottinghamshire hosted the first cybercrime conference in February which saw businesses across the county take advantage of the expert advice of cyber security professionals.

The Cyber Protect Conference, jointly hosted by myself and Nottinghamshire Police at The Atrium in Nottingham, was designed to help SMEs understand the threats and risks to their business, develop their knowledge on internet security as well as network with other businesses in the county.

Cybercrime costs UK businesses more than £1billion every year yet 80% of these offences are preventable. The feedback from this event was very positive and we will be carrying out further work with the business community to increase our resilience to the threats posed by cyber criminals.

## Mansfield Community Partnership



The police cannot tackle the issues of crime and disorder without the help and support of other agencies. Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) exist across the county, made up of a range of organisations including the District Council, Nottinghamshire Police, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service and the County Council. I provide funding for each of them to help them meet the objectives in my Police and Crime Plan creating safer communities for local residents.

Recently, residents in Mansfield came together for a series of events designed to gauge feedback on the area in which they live and identify improvements.

Police, housing and environmental officers were among those meeting residents at the "celebrating communities" events, organised by Mansfield Community Partnership, which took place in Bellamy, Oak Tree and Ravensdale during March.

A variety of themes were raised including the availability of activities for young people and suggestions were made to establish new groups, organise community litter-picks, plant bulbs, identify premises for get-togethers and expand existing groups. If you have any views on this, please get in touch.



## Ashfield Community Partnership

I am very aware of the harm, in terms of crime, health, relationships and so on, that alcohol abuse can cause. We have come a long way in the last few years, with a unified approach to tackling the problem. I was particularly pleased to see Nottinghamshire's third Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) has been launched in Huthwaite to reduce alcohol harm and antisocial behaviour in the area.

CAPs are partnerships between retailers, local authorities, police, schools, neighbourhood groups and health providers who agree to work together to tackle underage drinking and its impact on the community.

During the event, Sgt Martin Severn, who has headed Sutton-in-Ashfield CAP since it was launched in 2014, received a Community Alcohol Partnership Award of Excellence for his work in coordinating the CAPs in Ashfield.



Left to right: CAP Officer Alan Simpson, Sgt Martin Severn and Ashfield Inspector Glenn Longden

## National crime figures

The most recent national crime figures show an increase in crime in Nottinghamshire up to the end of March 2017 as in many other areas of the country. In real terms, crime has stabilised and is broadly the same last year. The fluctuation is due to changes in the way incidents are recorded to ensure the Force complies with the National Crime Recording Standards (NCRS).

According to the figures, the county remains below the national average with a 13.7% increase in crime (9,925 offences). Violence without injury offences, which include harassment and common assault, have increased by 49.4% (3,777 offences) however in many of these cases police have been unable to find

any victim or aggrieved party at the scene. Elsewhere the figures show there have been an additional 116 burglaries while robbery has reduced by 23 offences and theft from person to person is down by 155 offences.

In short, it is very difficult to derive any real meaning from comparisons with last year and I would suggest the figures demonstrate the unhelpfulness of constant changes to the recording system. The need for a clear, concise and universally implemented recording mechanism is vital if we're to derive any meaning from year-on-year crime statistics and help the public better understand criminal trends. Otherwise it's simply comparing apples with oranges.

### 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](http://www.nottinghamshire.pcc.police.uk)**

You can follow:  
**@NottsPCC**  
or **Facebook NottsPCC**

You can write to me at:  
**Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Arnot Hill House, Arnot Hill Park, Arnold, Nottingham NG5 6LU**

E-mail me at:  
**[nopcc@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:nopcc@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)**

Telephone me on:  
**0115 844 5998**