



Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner Newsletter | February 2019

THE BEAT

Following eight years of cuts and losses, we're strengthening our service and building up our thin blue line. My budget for 2019-20 will bring significant extra resources for neighbourhood policing which is something that everybody in Nottinghamshire wants and needs.

There's nothing complicated about good policing as far as local people are concerned. It's about having enough officers on duty to help them and to protect them – if and when they need it – and for crime to be investigated quickly and effectively when it is reported.

I've listened carefully to what people tell me. In the last year we have taken numbers up to around 2000 officers and now we can promise a further boost. This will make a real difference to our communities, officers and staff.

Paddy Tipping
Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner





More police officers for Nottinghamshire!

As reported, exciting new plans are underway to bring extra police officers to our streets and increase our visibility.

My 2019-20 budget will deliver an extra 40 police officers to the county - in addition to those recruited over the past 18 months which have pushed officer numbers beyond the 2,000 mark. Of the new cohorts, 33 officers will be deployed to Neighbourhood Policing Teams, giving us greater capacity to tackle the issues that matter to local people.



New Force Robbery Team: Within the planned reinforcements, seven officers will form a new force-wide street robbery team which will work closely with the knife crime unit to pro-actively target offenders, using powers such as stop and search to take knives off the streets. The team will pursue new investigative techniques and covert surveillance and will directly target those known to cause harm to the public. The team will operate across the force, responding to intelligence but also utilising some of the most intrusive policing techniques to disrupt this serious activity.

We will also be investing £150,000 in knife and hate crime prevention and working with the third sector to target young people transitioning from primary to secondary school. We already fund a host of bespoke crime prevention initiatives in the community and there are now School Liaison Officers throughout the force. We hope to widen this approach and ensure young people are given opportunities to make good life choices as they continue to be over-represented as both victims and offenders in knife-related incidents.

The Budget for policing Nottinghamshire

I've set the revenue budget for policing at £206.3m in 2019-20, that's £13.2m more than last year. This growth budget includes an increase in the amount of council tax paid towards policing in 2019-20 of £23.94 for a Band D property. This follows the Government's decision to lift the ceiling on the precept and raise vital additional income.

We've taken action and this budget will increase police visibility to where it matters most.



Burglary crackdown success

It has been almost a year since we launched two new specialist teams in response to the growing spate of burglaries across Nottinghamshire and the results continue to exceed our expectations.

The dedicated burglary teams, which comprise 22 officers and amount to £1m of resources, have been trialling a host of hard-line approaches including "capture houses" which are vacant private or council-owned properties filled with expensive goods and hidden cameras to catch burglars in the act.

There have also been plain-clothed patrols in densely-populated neighbourhoods targeted by burglars including Lenton and Radford.

Since the team has been in place, burglary rates have fallen meaning CID officers have had more time to focus on other areas of serious and organised crime.





Preserve our domestic violence shelters

Crisis services for victims of domestic violence save thousands of lives every year yet many still face funding uncertainty.

Investment and funding must be available nationwide to help these shelters cope with demand and provide critical support to those fleeing an abusive relationship.

I've written to the Minister seeking assurances the Government intends to preserve the national network of specialist refuges and secure long-term sustainable funding to continue their lifesaving work.

Nottinghamshire has safeguarded refuge spaces thanks to recent additional funding and it's vital this support continues.

The partnership work taking place in Newark is impressive, particularly in relation to antisocial behaviour which is a top priority for many residents. As always, there is more to be done and additional resources will boost this proactive work.

The rain came out to greet us in Mansfield Woodhouse. It was practically torrential, but this didn't stop us! I was joined by Sgt Neil Priestley, local councillors Parry Tsimbiridis and Amanda Fisher and members of the Park Road Resource Centre.

There is so much positive work taking place in the area and police visibility is greatly improved thanks to new officers joining the team and the relocation of the response team. Despite the damp conditions, it was a really good event.

Positive start for Ashfield Hub



Our new Ashfield Integrated Services Hub is already delivering on its promises with a series of key arrests to kick off 2019.

Neighbourhood officers moved into the Civic Offices in Kirkby-in-Ashfield a year ago to bring them closer to their colleagues in the council and improve response times in the area.

Response officers joined them at the hub late last year to allow officers to attend incidents more quickly and support further remote working, ensuring response officers are able to stay out on the streets of Ashfield for longer.

The move is already paying off with a number of key arrests of suspects for drug supply, robbery, burglary and public order offences. Despite its infancy, the partnership is working very well with improved information-sharing, reduced duplication and timely deployment of resources.

Out on the Beat



We've been covering new ground in my walkabouts. In just the last few weeks I could be found taking in the sights of Newark and Mansfield Woodhouse to find out what issues impact on local residents and businesses.

In Newark I was joined by Local Insp Heather Sutton, Neighbourhood Sergeant Mark Taylor, the new Town Centre Beat Manager PC Rob Harrison, PCSO Pete Rodda and PC Rob Nelson, we set off on foot from Newark Police Station in Mid-December, meeting local people and businesses along the way.



Enhanced support for victims

Alongside the growth in our headcount, 2019-20 will bring further services to support vulnerable victims of crime including a possible new pilot project for those affected by non-domestic stalking.

During the past 12 months, we've led work to understand the needs of victims of non-domestic stalking and it is hoped a new approach will get underway in 2019-20.

We've also successfully commissioned an independent review of criminal justice substance misuse support services. As a result, we are co-commissioning new substance misuse support services for the city and county, which we will publicise in due course.

Better services for rape survivors

Nottinghamshire recently won its MoJ bid to take full responsibility for its rape support fund and our plans for delivery now well underway.

This devolution process means we have greater flexibility to spend money on services which have a better outcome for Nottinghamshire and was won as a result of our commitment to working with health partners to expand the availability of therapeutic support services for survivors.

We have also worked with NHS England to ensure new and more robust adult and paediatric sexual assault referral centres (SARC) are in place and have co-commissioned new Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA) services for adults and young people.

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.

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