

August 2023

UPDATE



Protecting Communities,
Fighting Crime

from Angelique Foster, Police and Crime Commissioner

The voice of the public in policing in Derbyshire

CRIME REDUCES IN DERBYSHIRE

New national data shows the strong progress being made by Derbyshire Constabulary in tackling the crimes that concern the public most.

The latest Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW), which covers the 12 months up to the end of March 2023, casts Derbyshire in a positive light, with the force outperforming the national average in several key areas including knife crime.

For All Crime (excluding fraud), Derbyshire recorded 81.1 offences per 1,000 population in the 12 months up to March 2023. This is lower than the England and Wales average of 93.6 offences and the East Midlands average of 86 offences.

For Violence, the figure was 34 (England & Wales 35.4), Sexual Offences 3.3 (England & Wales 3.3),

Theft offences 20.6 (England & Wales 28.9), Residential Burglary 2.6 (England & Wales 3.2) and Vehicle Crime 4.5 (England & Wales 6.8).

The data goes on to show recorded knife crime fell by 12% across Derbyshire in the year up to March 2023 (compared to the 12 months up to March 2020) against a national average of 7%.

CSEW data also shows police recorded theft in Derbyshire fell 11% during the same time timeframe while Neighbourhood Crime (Robbery, Residential Burglary, Vehicle Theft and Theft from Person) fell 15%.

Meanwhile, our zero-tolerance policy towards anti-social behaviour (ASB) has also seen figures reduce by 11%



in the 12 months up to 31 March this year.

These figures prove that my Police and Crime Plan, which puts a clear focus on the public's key priorities is making a positive and ongoing difference to people's safety.

I will be working hard with the Chief Constable and senior officers to deliver further improvements against my Police and Crime Plan priorities over the next 12 months.



ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR HOTSPOTS TARGETED

Tough action to tackle ASB is now underway across Derbyshire and Derby City as part of my Derbyshire Action Against Anti-Social Behaviour Plan.

This will see targeted 'hotspot' policing and street warden patrols in every district and borough across Derbyshire and Derby City. The bespoke service will support my own zero-tolerance approach to ASB.

I recently met police officers and some of our new local street wardens involved in these patrols in Chesterfield Town Centre.

This type of proactive enforcement patrols will intensify over the coming weeks and perpetrators will be dealt with quickly and robustly. This will build on the progress I have already made and ensure our communities receive the support they need to stamp out ASB.

Police to step up Stop and Search to prevent serious violence

Police officers across England and Wales have been urged to use stop and search powers whenever necessary to protect the public from knife crime and violence.

In a letter to all 43 Chief Constables, Home Secretary Suella Braverman said officers should use the 'common sense' policing tactic to prevent violence before it happens. This includes arresting those who unlawfully obstruct a stop and search from taking place.

I fully support the approach which will give officers greater confidence to use the full suite of powers at their disposal.

The carrying of knives and offensive weapons is illegal. We must take every opportunity we can to take these weapons off our streets and ensure those caught carrying them feel the full weight of the law.

Stop and Search is an effective policing tool and can prevent, detect and deter serious crimes. I have reinforced the message to our police force that I fully endorse its use in Derbyshire and Derby City. The police have a duty to protect the public and should be able to exercise their powers fully.



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ANPR CAMERAS DISRUPT SERIOUS CRIME IN EREWASH

The high-tech cameras I funded early this year are disrupting crime and helping to bring offenders to justice in Erewash.

Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras are delivering excellent results including the seizure of a stolen vehicle used by a disqualified driver, the identification of vehicles used in a high-value burglary and the identification of pick pocket thieves who targeted pensioners. High harm road users such as disqualified and uninsured drivers are also being targeted.

Their location means that the road network in and around Erewash is becoming a no-go zone for criminals, including drug dealers and those exploiting young people in County Lines networks.

The technology is ensuring that vital evidence is obtained to help police solve crime and bring more offenders to justice. The data also helps build an intelligence picture to assist police in their day-to-day enquiries while supporting the investigation of serious offences by specialist units. **I will be working to help increase the number of ANPR further in Derbyshire and Derby City to maximise residents' safety.**



FURTHER ACTION TO TACKLE RURAL CRIME

I want our rural communities to feel supported, to feel safe and to be safe which is why I have pushed hard for strong local policing across the whole of Derbyshire.

I recently hosted a rural crime meeting with one of our Derbyshire MP Heather Wheeler MP and other local stakeholders. I was joined by Sgt Chris Wilkinson from the Derbyshire Rural Crime Team and Rural Crime Lead for the force, Inspector Mike Sisman, who were able to answer questions of an operational nature.

The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the challenges that are faced in our

rural communities, including hare coursing, cross border crime and machinery theft. Sgt Wilkinson and Insp Sisman also highlighted the work that is ongoing with other forces to share intelligence and build stronger relationships to tackle crime in our rural areas.

Rural crime is and will remain a key priority for me, and next month will see my second Derbyshire Rural Crime Week of Action following the success of the inaugural event last year. I will continue my work with partners to reduce rural crime and provide our rural residents with a strong voice on both local and national platforms.

Do you live in a rural location?



The Commissioner wants to hear from you if you live, work or own a business in rural surroundings.

You can share your views on crime and anti-social behaviour in your area [here](#):



ANGELIQUE FOSTER YOUR POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER



- Elected by the public in May 2021
- Published a Police and Crime Plan to set the key policing priorities in consultation with the public
- Holds the Chief Constable to account and scrutinises performance
- Sets the budget and the amount of council tax paid towards policing in Derbyshire
- Commissions services to support victims and improve community safety

GET IN TOUCH

How to get in touch and for further information about the Police and Crime Commissioner's role and responsibilities

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