



**Derbyshire
Police and Crime
Commissioner**

Protecting Communities,
Fighting Crime

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25th March 2024

FOI 14/2024

I write in connection with your request for information processed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and received in the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for Derbyshire on 09/03/2024 when you asked the following question(s):

Hi,

I have just received your latest Policing Budget Information 2024/25. It does raise far more questions than it answers. The data provided is completely without context and is pretty much meaningless without it.

For example you state: 351 extra police officers. Is that 351 new recruits? is it an increase in 351 in the overall number of officers? I suspect that is 351 new recruits / transferees and takes no account of the officers who have left or retired. In that case it isn't 351 extra is it.

50% reduction in anti-social behaviour. Over what period? Has the recording remained the same. Does this period include part of lock down when ASB would have been significantly down anyway?

Home burglaries down 31%. Again over what period? During lockdown houses were occupied almost constantly and the opportunities for burglars were limited.

22% fewer fatal road collisions. Over what period? This is a number that is quite small in the first place, 30 in 2022. As there is considerable delay in publishing road casualty statistics I suspect there may be some lock down effect. KSI's (Killed / Seriously Injured) is a better measure as it is a bigger number and more consistent year on year. Fatalities can vary up or down significantly year on year. The overall trend has been downwards for many years due largely to advances in vehicle safety features. The bottom line with this is that policing exerts only a small effect on this statistic.

A larger Rural Crime Team. New officers or just moving people from elsewhere. Where were they taken from, have they been back filled?

Shorter 101 and 99 waiting times. By how much? Is it just a few seconds? Are you meeting national / local targets?

A further 100 officers trained in pursuit driving. This sounds like the annual number of officers that are driver trained anyway. Not further officers. Are there more pursuit trained officers in the Force? Is this just routine training making up for the officers who have moved on to other duties and are no longer involved in pursuit roles?

100 more officers taser trained. Is this just 100 officers trained. 100 trained is not 100 actually "more". Is this training for officers who are new recruits or who have moved in to roles that require taser training, Is it to replace those moved on to roles where they will not carry taser. Is it actually 100 more?

Extra capacity in Missing Person and Child Online Exploitation teams. Great, but where did you get them from. Have you recruited more cops or just taken them from operational front line policing?

The numbers that have been presented are woolly and potentially misleading.

Careful choice of the timeframe will easily produce numbers that look favourable, especially given the effects of lock down.

Can you please provide me with the original source data and the timeframes for the numbers quoted. Please treat this as a Freedom of Information Act request.

I can confirm that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire holds the information that you have asked for.

In answer to your request please see the following information:

For example you state: 351 extra police officers. Is that 351 new recruits? is it an increase in 351 in the overall number of officers? I suspect that is 351 new recruits / transferees and takes no account of the officers who have left or retired. In that case it isn't 351 extra is it.

Answer: Please see para 2.2 of the End of Term report published on the Commissioner's website which states:

Operation Uplift was a national drive to recruit 20,000 extra police officers between April 2020 and April 2023. This is in addition to the normal recruitment undertaken every year to replace people retiring or leaving the force, resulting in 351 extra police officers in Derbyshire.

Link to report [End of Term PSM \(derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk/End-of-Term-PSM)

50% reduction in anti-social behaviour. Over what period? Has the recording remained the same. Does this period include part of lock down when ASB would have been significantly down anyway?

Answer: The 50% reduction in ASB incidents is sourced from force systems. ASB Incidents for the 12 months ending on 12/05/21 (i.e. the year before the Commissioner took office) = 38,992. ASB Incidents for the 12 months ending 31/12/23 = 19,502. Data correct as at 19/03/24.



ASB Incidents are recorded in accordance with NSIR (the National Standards for Incident Recording) which last changed in 2011 so recording has remained the same. [National standard for incident recording counting rules - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/national-standard-for-incident-recording-counting-rules)

The period includes part of the first lockdown ending in June 2020, the second lockdown in November 2020 and the third lockdown in January 2021.

Home burglaries down 31%. Again over what period? During lockdown houses were occupied almost constantly and the opportunities for burglars were limited.

Answer: The 31% reduction in Home Burglaries is sourced from force systems. Residential Burglaries for the 12 months ending 31/03/20 = 3,890. Residential Burglaries for the 12 months ending 31/03/23 = 2,684. Data correct as at 19/03/24. It is standard practice to compare Acquisitive Crime with pre-Covid figures, i.e. 2019/20.

22% fewer fatal road collisions. Over what period? This is a number that is quite small in the first place, 30 in 2022. As there is considerable delay in publishing road casualty statistics I suspect there may be some lock down effect. KSI's (Killed /Seriously Injured) is a better measure as it is a bigger number and more consistent year on year. Fatalities can vary up or down significantly year on year. The overall trend has been downwards for many years due largely to advances in vehicle safety features. The bottom line with this is that policing exerts only a small effect on this statistic.

Answer: Road Casualty figures relate to collisions during calendar years. Figures are from CREST (Derbyshire Casualty Reduction Enforcement Support Team).

Fatal Collisions 2019 = 38

Fatal Collisions 2023 = 30* (* This is a provisional figure which will be confirmed after 31/03/24)

So this should be a 21% (21.05%) reduction rather than 22%.

A larger Rural Crime Team. New officers or just moving people from elsewhere. Where were they taken from, have they been back filled?

Answer: Please see paras 6.1 and 6.7 of the End of Term report published on the Commissioner's website which state:

6.1 The RCT establishment has been increased, to include the addition of Derbyshire's first Rural Crime PCSO in late 2022.

6.7 The force is planning to uplift the RCT by an additional officer, commencing early 2024 for a total of eight police constables.

Link to the report [End of Term PSM \(derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk/end-of-term-psm)

As above (para 6.7 of the End of Term report), the extra Police Officer is a new post from the Uplift (the extra 351 officers).

Shorter 101 and 99 waiting times. By how much? Is it just a few seconds? Are you meeting national / local targets?



Answer:

For 999 calls, in 2020-21 the average ring time was 10 seconds, from April 2023-January 2024 it was 5.6 seconds, a reduction of 4.4 seconds.

For 101 calls, in 2020-21 the average ring time was 378 seconds, from April 2023-January 2024 it was 225 seconds, a reduction of 153 seconds. Please see paras 3.34 and 3.35 of the End of Term report published on the Commissioner's website [End of Term PSM \(derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)

The National Target for 999 calls is to answer 90% within 10 seconds. There is no National Target for 101 calls.

A further 100 officers trained in pursuit driving. This sounds like the annual number of officers that are driver trained anyway. Not further officers. Are there more pursuit trained officers in the Force? Is this just routine training making up for the officers who have moved on to other duties and are no longer involved in pursuit roles?

Answer: Please see para 3.22 of the End of Term report published on the Commissioner's website which states:

3.22 Initial Police Pursuit (IPP) training commenced in February 2023 as an initial pilot, with 21 local policing unit officers trained at High Peak and Swadlincote. This was supported through funding by the Police and Crime Commissioner. It ensures that officers are more able to respond to the criminal use of our roads and attend priority incidents more promptly and safely. The pilot has since been expanded, with a further 20 officers trained and supported by the ongoing roll out of new vehicles which have the necessary performance and handling requirements. By the end of 2024, the force will have 44 IPP ready vehicles on its fleet. The aim is to have 103 officers trained by the end of the 2023/2024 financial year, with another 100 training places allocated into 2024/2025.

Link to the report [End of Term PSM \(derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)

100 more officers taser trained. Is this just 100 officers trained. 100 trained is not 100 actually "more". Is this training for officers who are new recruits or who have moved in to roles that require taser training, Is it to replace those moved on to roles where they will not carry taser. Is it actually 100 more?

Answer: Please see para 3.21 of the End of Term report published on the Commissioner's website which states:

3.21 Derbyshire Constabulary currently has 546 officers who are taser trained. Numbers do fluctuate month to month due the timings of requalification and general attrition, but overall since the end of 2020, there are now 123 more taser trained officers. We are also one of the first forces in the country to start training special constables in the use of taser.

Link to the report [End of Term PSM \(derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)

Extra capacity in Missing Person and Child Online Exploitation teams. Great, but where did you get them from. Have you recruited more cops or just taken them from operational front line policing?



Answer: Please see para 8.8 of the Performance Scrutiny Meeting report on Victim Support and Safeguarding Report July 2023 which states:

8.8 During 2021-2023, the force reviewed its operating model and restructured these functions under a Crime Directorate. Within this, the force has realigned resources in accordance with demand. This has seen an uplift in investigative capability, which includes investing in vulnerability demand. An additional six supervisors and 46 investigators have been aligned across high-risk domestic abuse and RASSO functions, two supervisors and 16 investigators within child protection, including online child protection as well as resources into new teams such as missing persons, serial and repeat and the safeguarding coordination hub.

Link to the report [PSM Victim Support and Safeguarding Agenda and Report \(derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk)

As above (para 8.8 of the Victim Support and Safeguarding report), the extra Police Officers are new posts from the Uplift (the extra 351 officers).

If you are not satisfied with our response to your request, under Section 17 of the FOIA of the FOIA you are entitled to ask for an internal review of our decision. Any internal review needs to be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of this response and state why you are unhappy with the response. You can submit an internal review in the following ways:

- * emailing the OPCC Inbox –
PCCOffice@Derbyshire.PNN.Police.UK or;

- * writing to the OPCC at –
The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire
Butterley Hall
Ripley
Derbyshire
DE5 3RS
By phone – 0300 122 6000 (as a reasonable adjustment under the Equality Act 2010).



If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal review under Section 50 of the FOIA you can apply directly to the Information Commissioner (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure provided by the OPCC. You can contact the ICO in the following ways:

- * online at the ICO –
<https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/> or;
- * writing to the ICO at –
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marie Romano', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Marie Romano
Interim Strategic Lead for Governance and Compliance
On behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner

