

Public Assurance Meeting



REPORT TITLE	NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING
REPORT BY	CHIEF CONSTABLE
DATE	30 JULY 2026

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide assurance to the Police and Crime Commissioner that the Constabulary are making progress towards the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan Priority 3: Neighbourhood Policing.

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A: A Problem Management Plan Case Study and a Rural Crime Case Study

RECOMMENDATIONS

To determine if the Commissioner can gain direct assurance that this area of business is being managed efficiently and effectively.

CONTACT FOR ENQUIRIES

Name:	C/Supt Emma Aldred
Tel:	101
Email	pamenquiries@derbyshire.police.uk

1. **OVERVIEW**

- 1.1 Neighbourhood Policing, as outlined by the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC), brings police leaders and local teams together to prevent and reduce crime, improve community conditions, and strengthen public confidence. Officers, and staff, including Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) focus on visibility, engagement, targeted activity, problem solving, and building community resilience. As a fundamental part of the British model of policing by consent, the force is committed to Neighbourhood Policing and working in the heart of our communities alongside our local partners to tackle issues.
- 1.2 Neighbourhood Policing Teams are dedicated groups of police officers and PCSOs allocated to defined local areas. They operate proactively, focusing on problem-solving, addressing community priorities, and building strong, visible relationships with residents, rather than primarily responding to incidents as response policing does.
- 1.3 HM Government is undertaking a national uplift of 13,000 additional neighbourhood policing officers and staff across the country during this Parliament. On 10 April 2025, the Government also outlined the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee (NPG), including publication of the Neighbourhood Policing Performance Framework.
- 1.4 The Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee (NPG) is structured around five core pillars. Pillar 1, Police Back on the Beat, commits to increasing officer numbers within Neighbourhood Teams, with the force on track to recruit an additional 35 officers by April 2026. Pillar 2, Community-Led Policing, establishes minimum standards for community engagement, including the publication of a named, contactable officer for each area, along with details of local priorities and scheduled community meetings. Pillar 3, Performance, Standards and Professional Excellence, requires all officers and PCSOs undertaking neighbourhood policing roles to complete a College of Policing-approved training programme. Pillar 4, Crackdown on Anti-Social Behaviour, is underpinned by a National ASB Action Plan, outlining the force's commitment to addressing ASB, with further details available on the force website [Antisocial behaviour action plan | Derbyshire Constabulary](#). Pillar 5, Safer Town Centres,

- focuses on targeted initiatives such as Hotspot Policing, Safer Summer Streets, and the Winter of Action to improve safety and public confidence in town centres.
- 1.5 Hotspot Policing is a proven tactic for reducing crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB). Within Derbyshire, 19 hotspot locations have been identified. These areas were chosen based on the number of incidents relative to the population, along with insights from partnerships and local policing. Dedicated Hotspot Patrols are conducted by police officers, PCSOs and ASB Wardens. The initiative has produced significant successes, including life-saving interventions, disruption of drug networks and an increase in community confidence. To date 15,391 additional patrol hours have been completed, over 77,000 community engagements, 892 additional crimes identified and recorded, 247 arrests, and 405 stop and searches and in the 2025 calendar year we saw a 16% reduction in ASB across Hotspot areas. To date, all forces have received additional funding from central government to support Hotspot Policing. As of 31 March 2026, this has been removed, and all patrols will now be embedded as part of business-as-usual patrol strategies for all Neighbourhood Teams.

2. **SUB-OBJECTIVE 1: CREATING A GREATER PRESENCE IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS, UTILISING GOVERNMENT PLANS TO INVEST IN VISIBLE RESOURCES (OFFICERS, STAFF, AND VOLUNTEERS) TO MAKE DERBY AND DERBYSHIRE A SAFER PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND VISIT**

- 2.1 Through the National Neighbourhood Policing Uplift programme, the force has increased the number of officers in Neighbourhood Policing (as defined by the CIPFA Police Workforce function 1a - the criteria by which the Government is counting the uplift). At the start of the year 2025/26, the Government baseline for Derbyshire was 147.51 Officers and 153.73 PCSOs within neighbourhood policing (these figures exclude long term absences). The force submitted plans to use the uplift funds to increase the number of Police Officers and Sergeants within neighbourhood policing by 35, with the overall combined target for 2025/26 and 2026/27 set at 60 FTE (35+25). By the end of the year (to 31 March 2026) the force was representing a total growth of 49.03 FTE (47.27 Officers and 1.76 PCSOs). The force is confident that for the combined 2025/26 and 2026/27

elements of the neighbourhood policing uplift, the combined growth target of 60 FTE over these years from the March 2025 baseline will be attained.

As of 31 March 2026, the data below illustrates the distribution of Officers and PCSOs across neighbourhood policing roles.

- Officers – 194.78 (plus 5.88 who would normally be in neighbourhood policing but are long term absent)
- PCSOs – 155.49 (plus 2.95 who would normally be in neighbourhood policing but are long term absent)
- NIOs – 5.9 (plus 1.0 who would normally be in neighbourhood policing but are long term absent)

Scaling the business beyond mandatory grant stipulations may prove impractical due to competing resource demands across the wider organisation. Equally, further growth in 2027/28 as part of the national neighbourhood uplift will depend on the funding and grant conditions that are in place at the time.

The current funded establishment for the following roles in neighbourhood policing at the end of 2025/26 is:

- Officers – 160.0 (*including Constables and Sergeants, but excluding 35.0 uplift*)
- PCSOs – 159.0 (*including PCSO Supervisors*)
- NIOs – 10.0

2.2 The funding framework and grant conditions for the 2026/27 phase of the Neighbourhood Policing Uplift differ from the previous year. Under these arrangements, the Government has set the force a target of achieving an additional 25 full-time equivalent (FTE) police officers or PCSOs within Neighbourhood Policing. In line with the grant conditions, the officers already recruited above the 2025/26 uplift target provide an early foundation towards meeting this requirement, and the force has submitted detailed delivery plans to Government accordingly.

2.3 The introduction of a localised Scheduled Video Response Unit will form part of the force's Neighbourhood Policing capability. The Enhanced Video Response (EVR) team utilises AI technology to contact victims and deal with calls for service in quick time. Video response is a way of dealing with a call for service in a timely manner which does not require an officer's physical presence at the

scene. Victims are contacted using a video link where there is a two way video call between the officer and caller. As such Video response is only suitable for certain incidents and these are risk assessed and triaged by the control room. Once suitable, an appointment is created within the service level agreement time (48 hours) or to suit the victim.

- 2.4 The force is confident that, across the combined 2025/26 and 2026/27 uplift periods, it will achieve the cumulative growth target of 60 FTE (35 plus 25) from the March 2025 baseline. However, growth beyond the levels required by the grant conditions may not be sustainable due to competing demand pressures across the organisation. Any further expansion in 2027/28 as part of the national Neighbourhood Policing Uplift will be dependent on future funding allocations and grant conditions.
- 2.5 At a national level, T/DCC Shooter, as the National Police Chiefs' Council lead for Neighbourhood Policing, remains actively engaged in shaping and contributing to national discussions and activity relating to the expansion of Neighbourhood Policing and the delivery of the Government's Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee.
- 2.6 To ensure Neighbourhood Teams remain dedicated to their allocated areas, the force actively monitors officer abstraction. A formal Abstraction Policy is in place, with oversight and compliance assured through a requirement that all abstractions are authorised by the Critical Incident Manager (CIM), at Chief Inspector rank or above. This governance approach helps to protect neighbourhood capacity and maintain consistent local presence.
- 2.7 The abstractions are discussed and recorded on daily force tasking meetings, recording the rationale for the authorisation.
- 2.8 The force has recently transitioned the recording of officer abstractions from VisaV to a new Officer Demand Power App. This provides a more streamlined and consistent approach to abstraction recording and enables the force to accurately capture both the occurrence and duration of abstractions.
- 2.9 Abstraction levels are subject to ongoing oversight and governance. They are routinely monitored and reviewed through the Quarterly Neighbourhood Policing Board, chaired by T/ACC Booth, and the Divisional Neighbourhood Performance Monthly Meetings, chaired by Divisional Chief Inspectors. This framework

ensures transparency, accountability, and effective scrutiny of abstraction activity to protect neighbourhood policing capacity.

- 2.10 Below are the number of abstractions over 5 months, up to 31 March 2026. It highlights the number of hours abstracted, by whom, PC or PCSO and which area abstracted from.

Abstracted From	Type	01/11/25	01/12/25	01/01/26	01/02/26	01/03/26
30-Amber Valley SNT (N)	Officer	3	8	1	1	14
30-Chesterfield SNT (N)	Officer	1				4
30-Derby East SNT (S)	Officer	1	6			
30-Derby East SNT (S)	PCSO				1	
30-Derby North SNT (S)	Officer			2		
30-Derby North SNT (S)	PCSO	5	4		2	
30-Derby West SNT (S)	Officer	1	3			
30-Derby West SNT (S)	PCSO	2	2			
30-Derbyshire Dales SNT (N)	Officer		2	4		2
30-Digital Comms Development Team	Staff	1			1	
30-Equality Diversity and Inclusion	Officer				1	
30-Erewash SNT (S)	Officer		2	2		
30-High Peak SNT (N)	Officer	1				
30-High Peak SNT (N)	PCSO	3				
30-North East SNT (N)	Officer		4		2	4
30-North East SNT (N)	PCSO	1	3			
30-South Derbyshire SNT (S)	Officer	1	16	5	5	
30-South Derbyshire SNT (S)	PCSO	3		1		1
Not Recorded	Officer	4	1			
Grand Total		27	51	14	13	25

- 2.11 An increase in abstractions was recorded in December 2025 and March 2026, reflecting a significant rise in operational demand. This included higher volumes of risk-related incidents, scene guarding requirements, and the need to support response officers managing complex and time-critical incidents.

The most common reasons for abstraction were:

- Planned abstractions, linked to force-wide operational commitments such as football matches, public order events, and protests, as well as providing mutual support to Local Policing Unit (LPU) colleagues during periods of heightened incident demand.

- Spontaneous abstractions, arising from unplanned operational pressures including missing person enquiries, scene guarding duties, and prisoner-related investigations.

These abstraction patterns are consistent with fluctuating peaks in demand and illustrate the importance of effective governance to balance neighbourhood presence with wider operational responsibilities.

- 2.12 Citizens in Policing (CiP) are various volunteer roles that support the force, these include Special Constables (SC), Police Support Volunteers (PSV) and Volunteer Police Cadets (VPC).
- 2.13 The below table, details the current number of SCs, PSVs and VPCs compared to the previous year.

Role	2024/2025	2025/2026
SC	87	83
PSV	88	111
VPC	91	103

- 2.14 The below table, details the number of duty hours worked separately by SCs, PSVs and VPCs in the past 12 months compared to the previous year. VPCs have been added due to their ongoing work alongside Neighbourhood Policing initiatives.

Role	2024/2025	2025/2026
SC	19,444 hours	20,476 hours
PSV	8,225 hours	7,738 hours
VPC		1,038 hours

- 2.15 The CiP Manager and Support and Development Officer delivered a series of roadshow sessions to Divisional Commanders and Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs), highlighting the range of existing volunteering roles within the force that can support Neighbourhood Policing. The CiP team also offered practical support to develop new volunteer roles where appropriate, undertaking the necessary design and implementation work to enable this.
- 2.16 Volunteer Police Cadets are now contributing more extensively to SNT activity, enhancing operational capacity and providing visible community reassurance.

Over the past calendar year, Cadets have delivered 840.5 hours of direct support to SNTs. Their contributions have included participation in knife sweeps during Operation Sceptre and at other requested times, county lines awareness activity, speed enforcement initiatives, leaflet distribution, and a range of wider crime prevention and community engagement activities.

- 2.17 All volunteers have been consulted on how the force can better support, develop, and retain them, with a programme of enhanced engagement and development opportunities planned for the coming year. Work is also ongoing to expand Employee Supported Policing (ESP), strengthening partnerships with both existing and prospective employers. This will enable Special Constables (SCs) and Police Support Volunteers (PSVs) to carry out their roles with the benefit of paid release from their primary employment.

3. SUB-OBJECTIVE 2: ENSURING ALL RESIDENTS ACROSS DERBY AND DERBYSHIRE ARE COVERED BY A DEDICATED SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM (SNT) WHICH IS ACCESSIBLE, VISIBLE, AND RESPONDS TO THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

- 3.1 Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) work closely with local residents, partners, and stakeholders to identify and address specific local issues. Their approach centres on community engagement and problem solving, using targeted interventions to reduce crime, tackle anti-social behaviour, and improve community safety.
- 3.2 There are 10 Local Policing Units that cover all 95 Safer Neighbourhood Areas within Derbyshire.
- 3.3 Over the past 12 months, the force has worked to ensure that every neighbourhood area is supported by a named, dedicated Safer Neighbourhood Officer. This work has now achieved 100% compliance, providing clear accountability and a consistent point of contact for all communities.
- 3.4 Safer Neighbourhood Teams can be contacted via several means:
- Telephone 101
 - Social media
 - Email
 - Online contact tool

- Front Counters at Chesterfield, St Marys Wharf, and Peartree
- At engagement events

Methods of contact are advertised on the force website.

- 3.5 Communities can easily identify their local Neighbourhood Officers by visiting the force website and accessing the “What’s happening in your area” section. By entering their location, users can view details of their local Neighbourhood Teams, upcoming meetings and events, local news, social media updates, and the locations of police stations within the force area.
- 3.6 Over the past 12 months, Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) have strengthened their visibility within communities by proactively planning, publicising, and delivering engagement events and meetings. This work has been underpinned by a commitment to listening to and responding to the views and priorities of local residents.
- 3.7 In support of the Government’s Safer Streets Mission, SNTs have also delivered targeted initiatives over the last year aimed at increasing police visibility and addressing the specific issues having the greatest impact on community safety. These initiatives have focused on local priorities identified through community engagement, data analysis, and partnership working.
- 3.8 Each Safer Neighbourhood Team must set a minimum of three priorities for their area each quarter.
- 3.9 Priorities will be set following consultation with the LPU Inspector, PCSO Supervisor and the local Community Safety Partnership (as a minimum) and consider data from:
- Power BI Data
 - ASB Figures
 - Community Voice Survey from Derbyshire Alert
 - Forum meetings

At least one of the priorities will be based on Community feedback. In addition, SNTs assess the feedback and take account of:

- Local knowledge
- Survey results via Derbyshire Alert
- Data from Power Bi (analytical tool within force)
- Social media activity

- Local incidents
 - Crime statistics / trends
- 3.10 To set those priorities each Safer Neighbourhood Team engages with their communities via:
- Face-to-face engagement events
 - Derbyshire Alert – messaging
 - Derbyshire Talking surveys and community mapping
 - Local meetings such as Neighbourhood Watch and Parish Council meetings
 - Social media
 - Partnership working
- 3.11 Priorities are published on the force website using the Single Online Home Platform under the 'your area' section along with planned community events and meetings.
- 3.12 The force is committed to ensuring that local neighbourhood information is accessible to all members of the community. SNT priorities will be widely communicated through a combination of digital and in-person channels, including publication on force platforms and physical displays in key community locations such as local shops, post offices, GP surgeries, and community noticeboards.
- 3.13 The force will work in partnership with local agencies to broaden the reach of neighbourhood information, utilising established communication channels such as council magazines and parish newsletters. In addition, SNT officers will engage directly with residents through local meetings and community events, ensuring that those without access to digital platforms remain informed and able to contribute to local policing priorities.
- 3.14 Safer Neighbourhood priorities vary by area, but several themes appear consistently across force:
- Tackling Drug-related crime
 - Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour, Youth and Hot Spot Patrols
 - Tackling Retail Crime
 - Road safety, including parking and speeding issues
 - Tackling inappropriate use of E-Scooters and off-road motorcycles

- 3.15 A structured problem-solving approach is applied to all Neighbourhood Priorities, working closely with local partners and convening partnership meetings to ensure a coordinated and collaborative response to agreed issues.
- 3.16 Following the introduction of the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee, the force is required to respond to all contacts received through designated neighbourhood pathways within 72 hours.
- 3.17 To support this requirement, a new incident grading, Neighbourhood Query (NQ), has been introduced within Control Works, the force's incident management system.
- 3.18 NQ incidents relate specifically to reports submitted via the Single Online Home platform and include requests from community members seeking contact with their local Safer Neighbourhood Team or wishing to arrange a community engagement session. The process was promoted on the OPCC Website.
- 3.19 These incidents are triaged by Contact Management to ensure timely contact, completion within the 72-hour timeframe, and robust oversight, providing a clear and auditable process.
- 3.20 Since the implementation of this process, the force has consistently achieved high compliance with the 72-hour response standard, maintaining over 94% compliance overall and reaching 100% compliance in February 2026. The figures show a reduction over the months in the numbers of NQ graded incidents, this is due to a greater understanding within Contact Management of what incidents constitutes the NQ grading. The below data shows the finalisation dates:

Month/Year	Number finalised	Number not finalised	Percentage
July 2025	191	7	96%
August 2025	114	3	97%
September 2025	90	5	94%
October 2025	87	3	97%
November 2025	62	2	97%
December 2025	61	1	98%
January 2026	74	2	97%
February 2026	74	0	100%

- 3.21 All Neighbourhood Officers will receive training under the Neighbourhood Policing Programme (NPP). The programme is a national roll out of the Neighbourhood Policing Career Pathway and consists of the following:
NPP1 – online e-learning packages via college learn
NPP2 – classroom-based training
NPP3 – supervisors only
- 3.22 The modules for NPP1 and NPP2 are as follows:
Module 1 – Community Engagement
Module 2 – Problem Solving
Module 3 – Anti Social Behaviour
Module 4 – Working in Partnership to Prevent and Reduce Crime
Module 5 – Protecting Communities from Serious and Organised Crime
Module 6 – Offender Management
- 3.23 During the NPP pilot, the four participating LPU's (High Peak, North East, Derby East and Swadlincote) completed NPP1 modules 1-3 and 100% compliance was achieved.
- 3.24 For the full rollout of the NPP (to the other six LPU's) we have so far achieved 93% compliance for completion of NPP1 modules 1-3.
- 3.25 The force will rollout NPP1 modules 4-6 to all ten LPU's in Summer 2026.
- 3.26 During the 2024/2025 NPP pilot in Derbyshire, 118 officers of all ranks from the four pilot LPU areas mentioned above were trained on NPP2 modules 1-3.
- 3.27 From April 2026 to March 2027, the remaining approximately 195 Neighbourhood Officers who were not part of the pilot will be trained on NPP2 modules 1-3.
- 3.28 From April 2027 to Summer 2028, all Neighbourhood Officers from all ten LPU's will require training on NPP2 modules 4-6. This is approximately 380-400 officers.
- 3.29 Upon completion of NPP2 courses PCs, PCSOs and Neighbourhood Investigative Officer (NIO)s will also complete an operational competency portfolio.

- 3.30 During the 2025 NPP3 pilot in Derbyshire, 17 neighbourhood supervisors were trained in NPP3. In 2026, all remaining neighbourhood supervisors (LPU Inspectors, SNT Sergeants and PCSO Supervisors) will receive the training.
- 3.31 Key achievements included completing the new low-carbon Killamarsh Station, progressing a £35m purpose-built Chesterfield Custody Suite which will absorb Newbold SNT, and undertaking critical security, fire safety and refurbishment work across the estate.
- 3.32 Looking ahead to 2026, major projects include a new SNT building at Clay Cross along with ongoing planned maintenance.

4. SUB-OBJECTIVE 3: PROTECTING RESIDENTS, AND THE VULNERABLE THROUGH SNT LED INITIATIVES AIMED AT REDUCING HARM WITHIN OUR COMMUNITIES

- 4.1 The 2025/26 Hotspot Policing Grant Funding indicates HM Government's focus on town centres and ASB, which are integral pillars of the NPG.
- 4.2 Hotspot Policing is a Home Office-funded initiative that has received further funding for 2025/26, with £1 million in funds being secured by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 4.3 In Derbyshire, 19 hotspot locations have been identified, 14 of which focus on anti-social behaviour (ASB), while five address ASB, Serious Violence (SV), and knife crime.
- 4.4 These areas were identified through an assessment of incident volumes in proportion to local population size, informed by partnership intelligence and detailed local policing insight. Dedicated Hotspot Patrols are conducted by police officers (overtime) and 5.5 ASB Wardens in Derbyshire.
- 4.5 The initiative has delivered significant and measurable outcomes, including life-saving interventions, the disruption of organised drug networks, and a demonstrable increase in community confidence. Operationally, it has resulted in 15,391 additional patrol hours, more than 77,000 community engagements, 892 additional crimes identified and recorded, 247 arrests, and 405 stop and searches, highlighting its effectiveness in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour while strengthening neighbourhood policing presence.

- 4.6 A 16% overall reduction in incidents were recorded across identified hotspot areas during the 2025 calendar year compared with 2024. Notably, Derbyshire's two largest hotspot locations experienced more substantial decreases, with incidents falling by 28.7% on St Peter's Street, Derby, and 31.9% in Chesterfield Town Centre. These outcomes demonstrate the effectiveness of hotspot interventions in areas with the largest levels of demand.
- 4.7 Hotspot Policing is supported by the use of Visibeat technology, which enables precise tracking of patrol activity across the force. This capability has been instrumental in addressing public concerns around officer visibility, allowing the force to provide clear, evidence-based assurance on patrol presence and associated outcomes in specific locations. The data also supports more flexible application of hotspot policing methodologies beyond anti-social behaviour, including deployment in areas such as speed watch locations. This enhances performance monitoring and strengthens accountability across a broader range of neighbourhood policing activity.
- 4.8 Hotspot Policing is closely aligned with the Immediate Justice Initiative, which provides an out-of-court resolution for low-level offences, adopting a preventative approach to reducing repeat offending. Since April 2024, 71% of the 2,274 individuals referred through the initiative have not reoffended, demonstrating its effectiveness in promoting positive behavioural change. A significant proportion of referrals originate from hotspot locations, contributing to the reduction of repeat demand in these areas through educational and restorative interventions. This approach supports individuals to take responsibility for their actions, repair harm caused to communities, and enhances longer-term crime reduction and public confidence.
- 4.9 This approach also reduces pressure on the Criminal Justice System by resolving lower-level offences through effective out-of-court disposals. Following the withdrawal of dedicated funding, Hotspot Policing patrols have been embedded within business-as-usual activity, delivered routinely by officers across SNTs and LPU's. This ensures the continued application of hotspot principles within core operational deployment, maintaining a strong focus on prevention, visibility, and community reassurance.

- 4.10 Over the past 12 months, Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) have delivered a range of targeted initiatives focused on addressing the issues of greatest importance to local communities, informed by community feedback, crime data, and partnership intelligence. Community Speed Watch (CSW) is a scheme run by volunteers in communities where speeding and road safety is a concern.
- 4.11 In Derbyshire, volunteers supporting community speed enforcement initiatives receive training in best practice and the core principles of the scheme. This includes the safe and effective use of speed-monitoring radar equipment and accurate recording of vehicle details where speed limits are exceeded. The primary aim of the initiative is to monitor vehicle speeds and capture registration information in areas of community concern, influencing driver behaviour, promoting compliance with speed limits, and ultimately reducing the risk of collisions within local communities.
- Letters are sent to the registered keepers of vehicles monitored exceeding the speed limit warning them of the dangers and consequences of speeding. There are currently 98 Community Speed Watch Schemes across Derbyshire, consisting of 888 volunteers. The schemes are broken down as below
- | | | | |
|------------------|----|-------------|----|
| High Peak | 11 | Erewash | 10 |
| Derbyshire Dales | 18 | Derby North | 1 |
| Chesterfield | 5 | Derby East | 0 |
| North East | 23 | Derby South | 17 |
| Amber Valley | 12 | Derby West | 1 |
- During the period of 1 January 2026 – 31 March 2026 there have been 1,225 educational letters sent out as a result of Community Speed Watch.
- 4.12 The Operational Support Department has actively supported NPCC road safety campaigns, targeting the 'Fatal Four' offences: drink and drug driving, speeding, mobile phone use, and failure to wear a seatbelt. In addition, the department delivers targeted operations throughout the year to address broader road safety risks, including uninsured driving, young and inexperienced drivers, and eyesight standards. This activity underpins the force's commitment to reducing serious injuries and fatalities on Derbyshire's roads.
- 4.13 Operational Support provide dedicated support to Operation Tramline (a national road safety project focussing on the fatal four offences for Heavy Goods

Vehicles), delivered in partnership with National Highways. During the 2025 Tramline deployments, our force was recognised nationally as achieving the highest level of enforcement activity.

- 4.14 The Operational Support Department has worked collaboratively with Derbyshire and Derby Road Safety Partnership (DDRSP) to reduce the number of fatal and serious injury (KSI) motorcycle collisions on the highest routes in the northwest of the county.
- 4.15 Over the past 12 months, Chesterfield SNT has adopted a focused approach combining enforcement, problem-solving, and partnership activity to address drugs, anti-social behaviour (ASB), and vulnerability. This work has led to a reduction in repeat demand at priority drug-related and ASB locations, increased use of enforcement powers, including nine closure or partial closure orders, and enhanced safeguarding through earlier identification of risk and timely partner referrals. Collectively, these actions have supported more consistent and effective management of recurring neighbourhood issues. Over the past 12 months, Chesterfield SNT has implemented a focused approach combining enforcement, problem-solving, and partnership working to tackle drugs, anti-social behaviour (ASB), and vulnerability. This has resulted in reduced repeat demand at priority locations, increased use of enforcement powers - including nine closure or partial closure orders - and improved safeguarding through earlier identification of risk and timely referrals. Collectively, these measures have strengthened the consistent and effective management of recurring neighbourhood issues.
- 4.16 Chesterfield Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) has worked in close partnership with Spire Trust youth workers and 'Boots on the Ground' staff to strengthen the early identification of vulnerable young people. Ongoing engagement by SNT officers has supported effective safeguarding activity and enhanced intelligence development relating to youth-associated harm, reducing the risk of escalation and enabling timely, preventative intervention.
- 4.17 Operation Sandridge remains active and relevant within Chesterfield SNT areas with ongoing enforcement and engagement activity addressing nuisance and illegal bike use, including Surron-style bikes. The operation continues to generate enforcement outcomes, maintain visibility and contribute to harm

reduction and road safety following the recent fatal collision. Over the past 12 months there have been 87 seizures of off-road bikes and E-scooters.

- 4.18 Over the past 12 months, Derby East SNT have delivered a range of initiatives focused on protecting vulnerable residents and reducing harm within our communities.
- 4.19 A problem-solving approach has been taken to tackle drug use and ASB where vulnerable residents reside within a community of Derby East SNT. A Problem Management Plan captures and monitors progress of joint activity and interventions, with partners, to ensure effective enforcement and engagement, promoting reporting of crime and ASB, ensuring appropriate safeguarding measures have been implemented. As a result of proactive patrol activity, Alvaston SNT has achieved the following:
- 16 Stop Searches
 - Recorded 5 offences relating to ASB and drug use
 - Submitted 40 intelligence reports
 - Two warrants have been conducted with SNT and the force exploitation team.
- 4.20 A partial Closure Order has been secured for a property within Alvaston SNT area, which was a focal point for persistent ASB, criminality and drug use which was negatively impacting residents' safety, wellbeing and quality of life. The Closure Order, with powers of arrest for unauthorised visitors, has disrupted this activity, reduced footfall linked to criminality, and provided reassurance to residents who had previously felt unsafe in their own homes.
- 4.21 A further problem-solving approach has been implemented at Sinfin District Centre to address persistent begging. Police and partner agencies adopted an incremental strategy, delivering targeted interventions and support to reduce the behaviour. Despite these efforts and continued reported incidents, further enforcement action was taken, resulting in the granting of a two-year Criminal Behaviour Order for the individual concerned. This outcome provides ongoing protection to the district centre from repeat offending.
- 4.22 Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) regularly deliver community catch-up sessions, meet the team events, and crime prevention activities across their Local Policing Unit (LPU) areas. Community Catch-Up and Meet the Team

events are designed to provide residents with accessible opportunities to engage directly with local officers, raise concerns, and discuss neighbourhood issues. Feedback from these interactions is used to inform patrol plans and shape local policing priorities.

- 4.23 In addition, SNTs deliver crime prevention events in partnership with other agencies, providing practical advice and distributing security equipment such as window and door alarms, personal attack alarms, SmartWater, and video doorbells. Bike-marking events are also held regularly to deter cycle theft by uniquely identifying bicycles and supporting recovery if theft occurs. Collectively, these activities enhance community engagement, improve crime prevention, and strengthen neighbourhood resilience.
- 4.24 Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) maintain regular engagement with individuals and groups identified within their neighbourhood profiles. This includes a wide range of community organisations such as Extreme Wheels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, Air Cadets, youth clubs, faith groups, and places of worship. SNTs also work closely with volunteer-led initiatives including Neighbourhood Watch, Community Speed Watch, and other local volunteer groups. This sustained engagement supports community reassurance, strengthens relationships, and provides valuable insight into local issues and priorities.
- 4.25 The Police Licensing Team have been working jointly with the National Ask for Angela Team to deliver free accredited vulnerability training available to all retail, hospitality, and licensed premises across the county. The training has been delivered by live online sessions and in-persons group delivery.
- 4.26 The training has six modules:
- Understanding Vulnerability
 - Preventing Sexual Harassment
 - Bystander Intervention
 - Spiking
 - Managing Vulnerabilities
 - Implementing Ask for Angela/ Safe Place
- 4.27 The training ensures that staff feel confident recognising when a person needs support and how to deliver the correct safeguarding response. So far

approximately 100 people have attended the training all of whom expressed an increase in confidence when managing and dealing with vulnerability.

- 4.28 In support of this initiative, the force has developed a suite of free communication assets, including social media graphics and posters, which are available to local businesses wishing to support and promote the scheme within their communities.
- 4.29 Officers in Derbyshire's two largest night-time economy (NTE) areas, Derby and Chesterfield, have been actively deployed on Project Vigilant patrols. These patrols focus on the proactive identification and disruption of predatory behaviour within the NTE, with the aim of preventing harm before offences occur. Officers operate in a combination of plain-clothes and uniformed roles and work closely with local CCTV operators, using real-time intelligence to identify concerning behaviours and intervene at the earliest opportunity. This coordinated approach enhances public safety, supports early safeguarding, and reinforces confidence in policing within the night-time economy.
- 4.30 The Safer Streets Summer Initiative was delivered between end of June and the end of September 2025, with a focus on increasing high-visibility policing within town centres. The initiative aimed to build public trust and confidence, strengthen engagement with local communities and businesses, and support the planning and delivery of community events and engagement activity. Operationally, it targeted anti-social behaviour, street crime, and retail crime through enhanced visibility, the increased use of existing enforcement powers, Hotspot Policing, and coordinated activity with partner agencies.
- 4.31 The Safer Streets Summer Initiative demonstrated the strength of partnership working, proactive policing, and community engagement across Derbyshire. Through a combination of high-visibility patrols, youth diversion programmes, targeted enforcement activity, and direct support to local businesses, the initiative delivered effective, community-focused policing. Delivered across 11 key locations, the coordinated approach not only addressed anti-social behaviour and crime but also strengthened police visibility, built trust, and increased public confidence within local communities.
- 4.32 The below highlight some of the positive outcomes and the continued commitments to safer, stronger communities:

Amber Valley

- Four ASB events, Ripley Radio Scheme, off-road bike operation
- 195 business visits, 39 community events

Chesterfield

- Youth programmes (Reboot, Boots on the Ground, Premier League Kicks)
- 364 patrol hours, eight arrests, 18 stop searches
- 27 venues accredited (Best Bar None)
- Multiple enforcement actions: Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs), Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO), injunctions

Derbyshire Dales

- Lowest crime/ASB in county
- Youth diversion in Matlock, Darley Dale, Hurst Farm
- Community events and retail crime clinic

Glossop

- 81 patrols, 13 school visits, 18 business visits
- 7 ASB warning letters, four injunctions, two CBOs

Derby City

- 32 arrests, 27 stop searches (12 positive), three knives seized
- 21 dispersals (four breaches), 12 e-scooter seizures
- Operation Surron and Greenacre targeting e-bike crime
- Monthly Community Catch up engagement events

Derby East

- Library and park engagement, youth referrals
- Multi-agency pop-ups, dog control orders

Normanton

- 18 PSPO fines, two CBOs, 11 charge files
- Engagements at shops, churches, Ukrainian Centre

Ilkeston

- Community patrols, CCTV improvements
- 21 PSPO dispersals, two conditional cautions

Long Eaton

- McDonald's Problem Management Plan (SARA model)

- Four Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) issued, drug warrants, high shop theft detection
- Operation TURNHOUSE (county lines disruption)
- Monthly Community Catch up engagement events
- Bike marking initiatives
- Street meet engagement events

4.33 A Winter of Action initiative was delivered during December 2025 and January 2026 to address seasonal increases in crime, with a particular focus on shop theft. The operation targeted the same priority locations identified in the Safer Streets Summer Initiative, alongside an enhanced focus on Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and the Night-Time Economy. It combined targeted enforcement, high-visibility patrols, and partnership activity to prevent crime, safeguard vulnerable individuals, and maintain public confidence during the winter period.

4.34 The below highlight some of the positive outcomes for the force and the continued commitments to safer, stronger communities:

Total arrests for Retail Crime	92
Total arrests for Street Crime	6
Total arrests for Violent Crime	115
Total arrests for Sexual Offences	12

5. SUB-OBJECTIVE 4: PREVENTING CRIME BY TAKING A PROBLEM-SOLVING APPROACH TO IDENTIFY THE CAUSES AND UNDERLYING ISSUES WITHIN COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT DERBY AND DERBYSHIRE

5.1 During the 12-month period from March 2025 to February 2026, the force created 100 Problem Management Plans (PMPs) on NICHE across various teams, with almost 80% relating directly to community-based issues. This highlights the central role of problem-solving in neighbourhood and community policing activity.

5.2 To support this approach, the Problem-Solving Team produces a monthly problem-solving briefing for each Local Policing Unit (LPU). These briefings identify areas of highest demand across the county and outline where structured problem-solving activity is underway, enabling LPU Inspectors to make informed decisions about resource deployment.

- 5.3 When a PMP is closed—either following successful delivery or for other reasons—the officer in charge completes an outcome assessment capturing effectiveness and learning. This is followed by an evaluation conducted by the Problem-Solving Team, providing assurance on methodology and impact.
- 5.4 The application of the SARA (Scanning, Analysis, Response and Assessment) problem-solving methodology has been demonstrated to be effective through structured assessment of Problem Management Plans (PMPs). As part of the closure process, each PMP is assigned an Outcome Code to evaluate the impact of the problem-solving activity on the final resolution. Outcome 1 denotes a clear and sustained reduction in demand directly attributable to problem-solving interventions.
- The full list of Outcome Codes:
- Outcome 1 - Clear and sustained reduction linked to problem solving responses
- Outcome 2 - Clear and sustained reduction not attributable to problem solving responses
- Outcome 3 - Other agency dealing/taking ownership
- Outcome 4 - Insufficient response tactics available
- Outcome 5 - Unresolved problem
- 5.5 Analysis of PMPs evaluated over the past 12 months shows that more than 84% achieved evidenced reductions in demand on police services as a result of adopting a structured problem-solving approach. This provides strong assurance of the effectiveness of SARA-based methodologies in addressing recurring problems and reducing long-term demand.
- 5.6 The force has identified several challenges in consistently embedding problem-solving across the organisation.
- There has been limited capacity to deliver force-wide problem-solving training. However, a dedicated training package is available via the Connect Learning Hub, and the recent appointment of a Problem-Solving Officer will enhance delivery and capability.
 - The use of Problem Management Plans (PMPs) has historically been concentrated within Neighbourhood Policing, with more limited adoption across other areas. This is expected to improve through the support of the

Problem-Solving Officer, who will drive wider engagement and promote the benefits of structured approaches.

- Problem-solving is not yet fully embedded across the wider workforce. The introduction of the Neighbourhood Policing Programme (NPP), which includes structured training, alongside the dedicated Problem-Solving Officer role, is expected to strengthen consistency and support broader organisational ownership of problem-solving practices.

Problem Management Plans opened between 01/03/25 and 28/02/26				
CSP Area	Quantity	Closed	Comprising the following issues	
Amber Valley	8	10	ASB - Begging	1
Chesterfield	14	9	ASB Drugs / Littering	1
Derby City	23	20	ASB Nuisance Behaviour	49
Derbyshire Dales	2	1	ASB Nuisance Neighbours	2
Erewash	11	8	ASB Nuisance Parking	1
High Peak	6	5	ASB Nuisance Vehicles	6
North East & Bolsover	26	24	Community	1
Southern Derbyshire	10	8	Drugs	5
Total	100	85	Frequent / High Demand	3
			Licensing	7
			Other	1
			Procedure	2
			Sexual Offence	1
			Theft from Shop	6
			Theft of Motor Vehicle	2
			Traffic	3
			Violence	4
			Vulnerable Person	4
			Weapon	1
			Total	100

- 5.7 Problem-solving activity within the force remains primarily centred within Neighbourhood Policing; however, its application is increasingly expanding across other areas. While current efforts are largely focused on addressing anti-social behaviour as a key driver of repeat demand, the approach is being applied more broadly to complex and high-harm issues, including domestic abuse and sexual offences, demonstrating its growing adaptability and value across policing functions.
- 5.8 The ECINS Case Management System continues to be the force's primary tool for addressing issues that require a co-ordinated multi-agency response. It enables effective information sharing, case management, and oversight across partner organisations.
- 5.9 To further strengthen this approach, ASB Solutions Meetings are now being established across all CSP areas, with the majority already in operation. These meetings provide structured multi-agency forums to review and manage all high- and medium-risk ASB cases, including those not subject to a formal Problem Management Plan (PMP). This ensures consistent oversight, timely intervention, and a joined-up response to ASB concerns across Derbyshire.

6. SUB-OBJECTIVE 5: INVESTING FURTHER TO IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY AND PERFORMANCE IN THE ONLINE REPORTING, 999 AND 101 SERVICES

- 6.1 Call-handling performance for both 101 and 999 has remained stable over the reporting period, with 999 performance now placing the force among the leading performers nationally, as reflected in publicly available BT 999 performance data. A significant improvement in 999 call-answering times followed changes introduced in April 2025, when an automatic answering solution was implemented. This revised process has delivered marked efficiencies in call handling and has contributed directly to faster response times and improved service to the public.
- 6.2 The National Child Protection Inspection (NCPI), completed in Derbyshire in March 2026, identified concerns regarding the quality and consistency of THRIVE risk assessments at the point of contact. It also highlighted shortcomings

in the completion of initial safeguarding plans, indicating the need for greater consistency in early-stage safeguarding responses.

- 6.3 A dedicated quality assurance function was established in 2025, with an increased focus on monitoring THRIVE performance following the NCPI. This has enabled the collection of comprehensive data at individual, team, and departmental levels, providing a clear baseline to drive sustained improvements in safeguarding practice and decision-making.
- 6.4 In response to NCPI findings, the force has implemented a programme of improvements to enhance the quality and consistency of THRIVE assessments, including ongoing refresher training and the introduction of a supporting guidance tool for staff.
- 6.5 Performance data over a four-year period shows consistently strong 999 call-handling outcomes. Despite minor methodological differences between force and BT data, the force records the lowest proportion of calls exceeding 60 seconds nationally, ranks within the top five UK forces for average answer times (approximately 4.5 seconds), and consistently answers over 90% of calls within ten seconds.

999 Calls			
Period (April – March)	Total number of calls recorded	Average ring time (seconds)	% calls answered in 10 seconds
2022/23	172,965	7.4	83.9
2023/24	180,173	5.4	92.9
2024/25	167,652	4.7	95.8
2025/26	171,921	1.6	97.3

*Significant year-on-year improvements are noted.

- 6.7 The below table shows over a four-year period the number of 101 calls received each year, the average ring time, percentage of calls answered within 60 seconds and the percentage of abandoned calls.

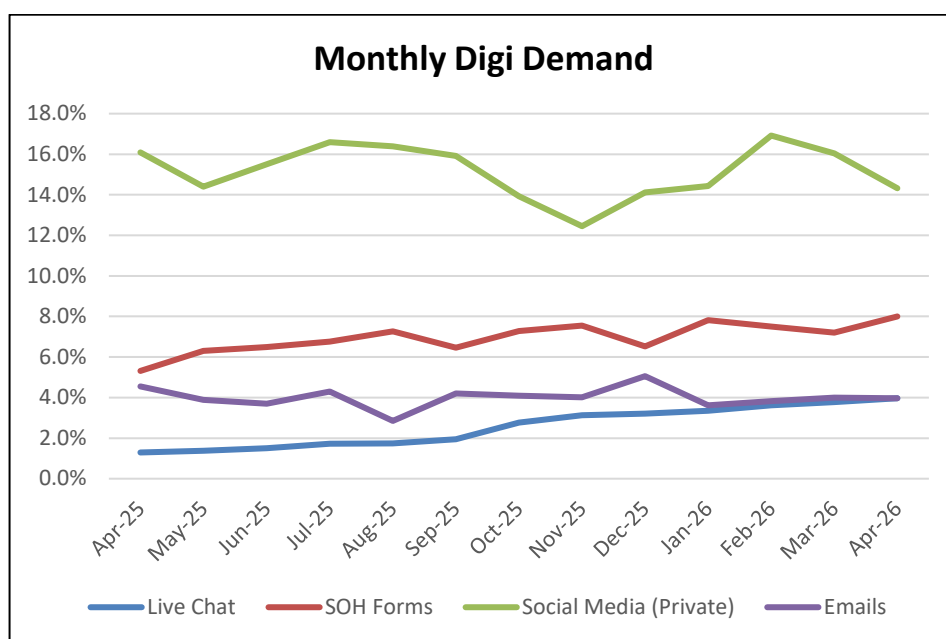
101 Calls					
Period (April – March)	Total number of calls recorded	Average ring time (seconds)	% calls answered in 60 seconds	% calls answered in 300 seconds	% Abandoned calls (against total calls)
2022/23	169,699	365.7	31.4	50.5	20.32
2023/24	231,870	230.5	39.4	62.3	15.69
2024/25	245,357	185.6	43.6	70.6	11.4
2025/26	243,706	150.1	53.2	76.4	8.5

- 6.8 Changes were made in 2024, with a new telephony system introduced in April 2025. Both have assisted in improving performance throughout the last reporting period.
- 6.9 Digital contact options have been expanded further with a dedicated supervisor, and an increase from eight dedicated digital contact handlers to 16 from the end of 2025.
- 6.10 The force continues to provide the following digital reporting routes 24/7:
- Single Online Home (website reports)
 - Live Chat (24/7)
 - Social Media (24/7)
- 6.11 The force is a national leader in digital contact performance, successfully retaining more users on their chosen reporting channels. Clear KPIs are in place: Single Online Home reports are triaged within 15 minutes, social media private messages answered within 30 minutes, and live chats acknowledged within 60 seconds. Performance against these standards is routinely monitored through departmental performance meetings.
- Performance during early 2026 was noted as follows:

KPIs	Response KPI	Total dealt within KPI Time	Total dealt outside KPI Time
Green (Further Information Required)	4 hours	86%	14%
Amber (Reported Crime)	4 hours	91%	9%
Red (Unmitigated Risk)	30 minutes	100%	0%

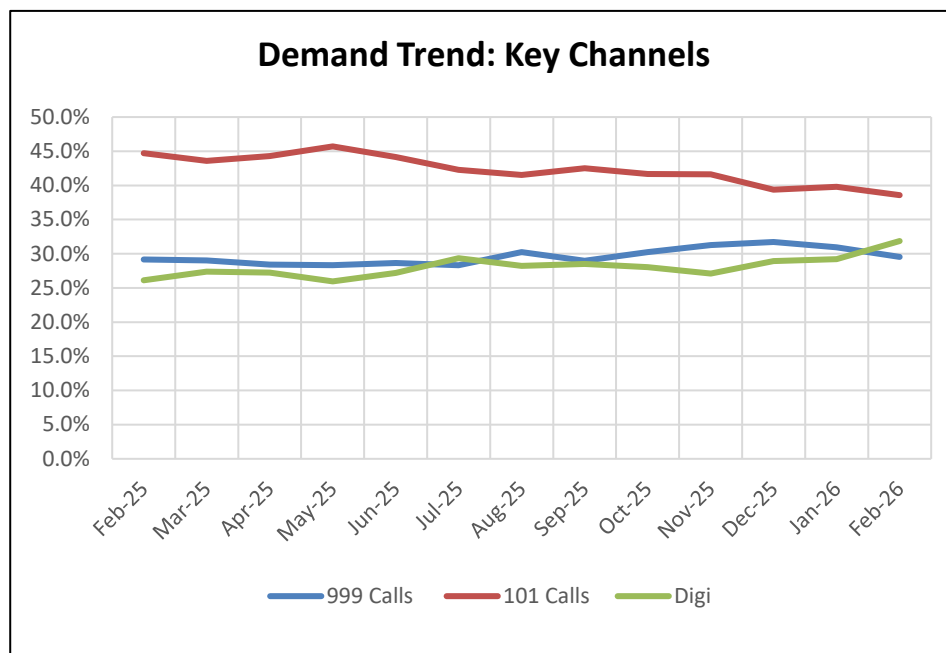
KPIs	Response KPI	Answer Time	Total Conversations
Live Chat average Answer Time	60 seconds	81 seconds	1,540

Performance is monitored and reported on a monthly basis. While the force does not consistently meet the 60-second KPI for LiveChat, this remains an intentionally ambitious target. Increased demand through this channel has been driven by the diversion of callers from the 101 service. The table below illustrates the growth in LiveChat usage over the past six months.



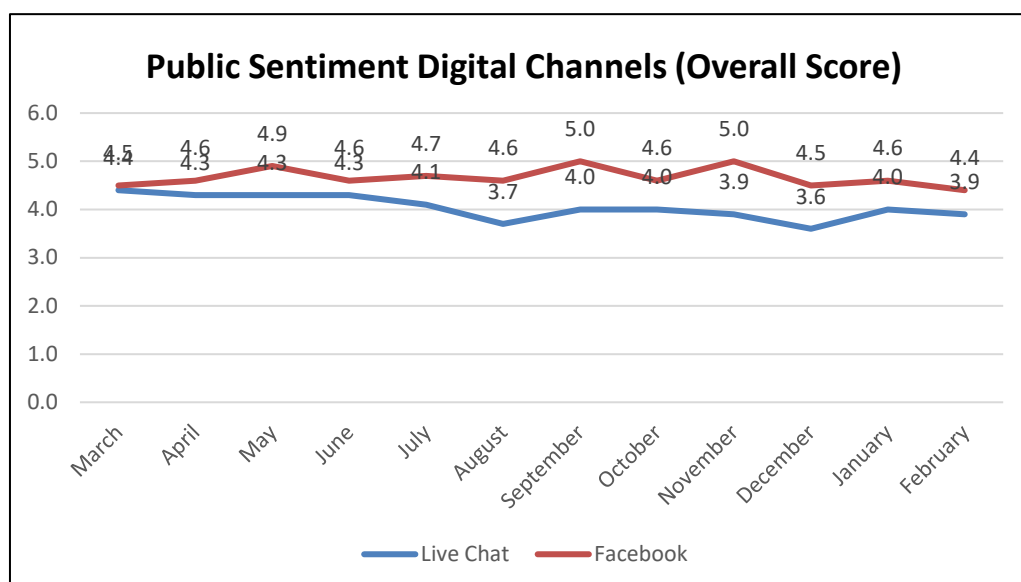
The diversion message was enabled in October 2025. Since that time, LiveChat usage has doubled from around 2% of all demand to around 4% of all demand.

- 6.12 The proportion of demand by each route (999, 101 and digital) is represented in the below graph:



6.13 Digital contact routes have now overtaken 999 as the second most common reporting method, with data indicating a shift from 101 to digital channels as the two converge. Targeted campaigns promoting LiveChat, alongside a text message option when calling 101 that directs callers to LiveChat, have driven significant growth. As a result, LiveChat usage has more than doubled over the past 12 months, increasing from approximately 1.6% of total contact demand in February 2025 to just under 4% in February 2026.

6.14 The public sentiment for LiveChat and social media is generally positive as represented below:



- 6.15 On 15 April 2026, a dedicated video response function was introduced across three hubs - Ripley HQ, Derby, and Chesterfield - delivering both Rapid Video Response (RVR) and Enhanced Video Response (EVR). This approach enables victims to engage with officers at the earliest opportunity, with RVR facilitating immediate contact in appropriate cases, including certain domestic abuse incidents where risk thresholds allow. EVR provides follow-up video contact within 48 hours, often sooner. The service is deployed where victims are assessed as physically safe, reducing the need for travel for both victims and officers, and can be applied across a range of crime types, from neighbourhood offences to domestic abuse.

7. **SUB-OBJECTIVE 6: MAINTAINING A DEDICATED RURAL CRIME TEAM WHICH IS TRAINED TO TACKLE CRIMINALITY IN RURAL AND ISOLATED COMMUNITIES ACROSS DERBYSHIRE**

- 7.1 Over the past 12 months, the Rural Crime Team (RCT) has undergone a structural change and now sits within the Prevention and Partnership Department, having transferred from North Division. This realignment reflects the cross-divisional nature of rural communities across Derbyshire and supports a more consistent, force-wide approach to rural crime.
- 7.2 The relocation of the RCT has strengthened the force's ability to deliver a consistent, county-wide approach to tackling rural crime. Positioning the team within the Prevention and Partnership Department enhances collaboration with wider partnership functions, enables more effective cross-divisional working, supports the sharing of best practice, and facilitates joint initiatives to address the distinct challenges facing Derbyshire's rural communities.
- 7.3 The RCT is made up of:
- 1 Inspector (Community Safety and Prevention)
 - 1 Sergeant
 - 6 Constables
 - 2 Police Community Support Officers
 - 1 Dedicated Rural Crime Special Constable
 - 1 Police Support Volunteer

- 7.4 The 2025/26 period presented significant challenges for the RCT. In August 2025, the team was redeployed under Operation Surge to support South Division, reducing RCT capacity, with the Rural Crime Sergeant remaining seconded until December to provide supervisory resilience. This redeployment occurred during a period of heightened demand, increased abstractions, and several resource-intensive serious incidents, which stretched force capacity, particularly in the South. Since January 2026, the team has returned to full establishment, restoring its ability to deliver core functions.
- 7.5 Rural SNTs are supported by 8 Constables and 3 PCSOs acting as designated RCT Single Points of Contact (SPOCs). Working closely with the RCT, they address rural crime, wider criminality, and anti-social behaviour affecting rural communities. In May 2025, SPOCs attended a dedicated training day delivered by the RCT, covering key areas including plant and agricultural vehicle theft, farming-related crime, and the identification and response to domestic abuse in rural settings.
- 7.6 Members of the RCT continue to develop and maintain specialist policing capabilities. All constables are Taser-trained, two officers are qualified drone pilots, and all team members have completed the drone observer course. In addition, all officers are trained in 4x4 driving and hold towing qualifications, ensuring the team is fully equipped to operate effectively within rural environments.
- 7.7 It is essential that the RCT maintains subject-matter expertise in rural policing priorities. Over the past 12 months, officers have completed and refreshed specialist training across key areas, including National Wildlife Crime Unit (NWCU) foundation training, achieving accreditation as wildlife crime investigators. Additional training has been delivered in partnership with specialist organisations, covering areas such as poaching and firearms awareness (BASC), treasure identification (Derby Museum), livestock identification, equine handling, heritage crime (Historic England), and rural domestic abuse. This ensures the team remains highly skilled and equipped to address the diverse challenges of rural crime.
- 7.8 The rural crime priorities remain the same as previous years these being, Agriculture, Wildlife, Heritage and Equine.

- 7.9 The RCT work alongside partner agencies to police rural communities effectively. These partner agencies include but are not limited to National Construction and Agriculture Theft Team (NCATT), National Farmers Union (NFU), NWCY, Peak District National Park Authority, British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC), Historic England, Environments Agency and the RSPCA and RSPB.
- 7.10 Agricultural crime remains a key priority, encompassing offences such as plant machinery and tool theft, livestock theft and worrying, and wider criminal damage and anti-social behaviour. The RCT recently secured the conviction of two individuals for handling stolen goods, following an investigation into the burglary and theft of a £40,000 telehandler from a farm. Over the past 12 months, the team has also dealt with more than 20 offenders for livestock worrying, using a combination of out-of-court resolutions and Community Protection Warning Notices (CPWNs) to address offending and prevent recurrence.
- 7.11 Equine-related crime includes theft of horse tack and trailers, animal welfare concerns, and road safety issues. Over the past 12 months, the RCT has worked in partnership with the RSPCA on several investigations, resulting in the prosecution of two individuals for separate animal welfare offences.
- 7.12 Heritage crime -covering offences such as illegal metal detecting, lead theft from listed buildings, and damage to historic sites - remains a key area of focus due to its lasting impact on community identity and heritage assets. The RCT led the response to a series of high-value lead thefts from churches in Derby City Centre, resulting in the arrest of three offenders, with two subsequently charged.
- 7.13 Wildlife crime remains a persistent challenge and includes offences such as the persecution of birds of prey, egg theft, hare and deer coursing, badger and bat offences, and the illegal trade in endangered species. Those involved often engage in wider criminality, reinforcing the need for a targeted, intelligence-led approach. Over the past 12 months, the RCT has investigated more than 100 incidents, dealing with 32 suspects, including eight through out-of-court resolutions. Notably, a recent conviction was secured for badger baiting and animal welfare offences, following evidence that a dog owned by the offender had injuries consistent with such activity.

- 7.14 The Rural Crime Team (RCT) continues to monitor a range of related offences, including non-agricultural plant machinery theft, caravan theft, and crimes affecting local and national infrastructure. Ongoing monitoring of rural and associated crime enables the identification of emerging hotspots, which are then targeted through preventative activity and focused proactive patrols to reduce offending and protect rural communities.
- 7.15 The RCT publish a Rural Crime Calendar to highlight key priorities throughout the year, aligning proactive activity, community engagement, and targeted communications with seasonal crime trends and national campaigns. Monthly themes reflected known patterns of offending - such as burglary and tool theft, trailer theft, and livestock worrying - ensuring that prevention and enforcement activity remained timely, targeted, and responsive.
- 7.16 The RCT investigate all crimes relevant to the main four priorities and in the last year have secured several successful prosecutions as well as numerous out of court resolutions and positive outcomes under each priority.
- 7.17 The RCT maintains extensive engagement with rural communities, including visits to repeat and high-value crime victims, regardless of whether active lines of enquiry are ongoing. The team also regularly attends rural events such as farmers' markets, farm sales, country fairs, and community meetings, and delivers presentations to farming and wildlife groups. However, the team's temporary abstraction in August 2025 to support Operation Surge resulted in reduced attendance at some key rural events during that period.
- 7.18 Since the introduction of the Rural Crime PCSO, school visits and educational talks have been delivered at 2 schools in Amber Valley, 3 schools in the High Peak, a school in the Derbyshire Dales and a school in the South of the County. Similar visits and presentations have been delivered at 7 Young Farmers groups in the High Peak, Dales and North East. These visits are often in partnership with local Safer Neighbourhood Teams or through the Mini Police programme. The RCT also maintains an active social media presence, working closely with the Derbyshire Partnership Against Rural Crime (DPARC) – a group founded and led by the Derbyshire OPCC to raise awareness, share prevention messages, and engage with rural communities.

- 7.19 The RCT maintains extensive engagement networks across Derbyshire through Derbyshire Alert, enabling targeted communication and intelligence sharing. This includes over 4,000 registered farms, with 3,023 participating in Farm Watch, alongside additional schemes such as Horse Watch, 4x4 Watch, and Rural Watch. Wider engagement extends to key community groups, including anglers, caravan and camper owners, firearms licence holders, fishing clubs, and dog walkers. Collectively, these networks support effective crime prevention, timely information sharing, and strengthened connectivity with rural communities.
- 7.20 The RCT Facebook page has 23.4k followers, this is up by 1.5K. The page has 4.4m account impressions, with 4.6m post impressions and a 2.6m post reach. All of these metrics have increased in the last 12 months.
- 7.21 The RCT continues to actively promote the DATATAG CESAR property-marking scheme, which has delivered significant crime-prevention benefits across Derbyshire. Since the scheme's expansion in January 2023, 72,182 assets have been security-marked and registered (as of December 2024). Of these, only 73 assets have been reported stolen and recorded on the Police National Computer, with 26 recovered from locations across the UK. This represents a 35% recovery rate, more than three times the national average of approximately 10%. Overall, the theft rate for CESAR-marked assets in Derbyshire stands at just 0.1%, reducing further to 0.06% when recoveries are taken into account. These figures demonstrate the effectiveness of DATATAG in deterring theft, supporting asset recovery, and protecting rural businesses and communities.
- 7.22 As demonstrated above, DATATAG is a highly effective crime-prevention tool. Through this initiative, the RCT has helped protect over £3.4 million worth of machinery. Further investment in, and promotion of, the DATATAG scheme has continued throughout the year to build on these positive outcomes.

8. SUB-OBJECTIVE 7: BUILDING PUBLIC TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN OUR POLICE SERVICE BY IMPROVING OUR ENGAGEMENT TO UNDERSTAND CONCERNS FROM RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITIES

- 8.1 The Neighbourhood Policing Strategy and the Neighbourhood Policing Charter highlights the force's commitment to Neighbourhood Policing. The Strategy and

Charter focus on Neighbourhood Policing within our communities, one area being effective engagement.

- 8.2 The force has set minimum standards of engagement expected for each of its Neighbourhood Teams. These are focussed on building strong community relationships and setting priorities. To do this each Neighbourhood Team will engage via
- Face to face engagement events
 - Derbyshire Alert
 - Derbyshire Talking Surveys
 - Local meetings, such as Parish Council, Neighbourhood Watch
 - Social media
 - Community mapping to support engagement with less heard communities and use of priority flagging within Rapport.
- 8.3 SNTs are encouraged to engage with local forums, such as Parish Council meetings, as part of community engagement activity; however, attendance is not mandated at all meetings. Engagement is prioritised based on operational demand and available resources. Where relevant community issues are identified, or where there is a need to provide updates or reassurance, teams will seek to attend in order to share information and outline policing activity.
- 8.4 SNTs maintain up-to-date contact details for Parish Councils within their Neighbourhood Profiles, supporting regular and effective communication. This enables timely sharing of information and updates on local issues.
- 8.5 A range of communication methods - including face-to-face engagement, telephone, and email - are used to facilitate dialogue, allowing community concerns to be raised and feedback to be provided on police action taken.
- 8.6 SNTs utilise a range of communication tools, including Derbyshire Alert (a community messaging system) and social media platforms, to engage with communities and share information. Recognising that not all residents access digital channels, teams are encouraged to adopt inclusive approaches by using community locations - such as places of worship, GP surgeries, and noticeboards - to ensure information reaches all members of the community.
- 8.7 Derbyshire Alert (a community messaging system) is also utilised by the Neighbourhood Team as a prime engagement tool. It is utilised to keep residents

updated with local issues, news and updates to people who live in individual areas. Residents can sign up for free at www.derbyshirealert.co.uk.

- 8.8 Every three months each Neighbourhood Team will set three to five community priorities based on engagement through events, surveys, social media and local meetings, alongside data and local knowledge.
- 8.9 These priorities are agreed in quarterly meetings led by LPU Inspectors and must be published and updated regularly. Each priority will have a designated owner and should follow a problem-solving approach with updates shared publicly via various channels.
- 8.10 Priorities are monitored through local and divisional governance structures to ensure accountability and consistency across Derbyshire.
- 8.11 All Neighbourhood Teams are expected to use Derbyshire Alert daily for community engagement with every team member responsible for messaging, promoting events and supporting surveys.
- 8.12 Each team should aim to sign up at least ten new subscribers and send a minimum of ten alerts per month, covering topics like local priorities, reassurance and events.

Alert Subscribers -

- **2025:** 46,571 total members
 - **2026 (to date):** 48,227 total members
 - **Last 12 months:** 3,946 alerts sent across the county
- 8.13 Neighbourhood Teams will be tasked by their Inspectors to make contact, build relationships and support Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinators once a month where there is a Neighbourhood Watch in place. Responsibility for ensuring this occurs sits with the PCSO Supervisor.
 - 8.14 Between 1 March 2025 to 31 March 2026 there were a total of 5,017 engagements across the Safer Neighbourhood Policing areas within force. 2,329 of these engagements have been with seldom heard communities. Seldom heard communities are groups or populations whose voices are not often represented or actively engaged in matters relating to community or policing issues. There have also been joint engagement visits with the PCC and OPCC staff.

8.15 The table below summarises engagement activity across each Safer Neighbourhood area for the specified period. While the Derbyshire Alert engagement tracker was not fully implemented until November 2025, SNTs were already capturing activity through an internally developed system. During this time, a manual process was used to upload engagement events to ensure compliance with the required standards.

To ensure data accuracy during the transition to the Derbyshire Alert engagement tracker, abstractions were removed from the reporting dataset, providing a clearer picture of booked engagement activity. This approach supported streamlined workflows following the implementation of the new system in November 2025. An improved internal abstractions application has since been introduced, consolidating abstraction data across the force, including both response and SNTs. This enhancement is expected to ensure greater accuracy and consistency in future reporting. The data presented reflects the period outlined above.

	Amber Valley	Dales	Chester-field	High Peak	North East	Derby East	Derby North	Derby South	Derby West	Erewash
Total Engagements (abstractions removed)	393	520	332	440	1,283	221	315	444	401	544
Seldom Heard Communities	110	277	154	57	441	102	172	296	200	300
Campaign	6	7	19	19	7		26	4	24	32
Engagement Van	17		4	1	2	1	2		8	6
Event	166	119	58	114	646	60	97	105	54	81
Face to Face Meeting	77	169	57	54	202	88	89	167	82	192
Newsletter		1								
Online Meeting	3				5			2	27	16
Parish Council Meeting (face to face, online and written)	17	22	17	28	46	3	4	20	2	27
School Visit	44	97	108	135	308	63	89	128	143	144
Surgery	43	105	69	89	37	6	8	18	12	21
Published to Social Media	54	159	9	73	233	31	72	30	38	39

- 8.16 To better understand the concerns of young people, the force delivers an annual Your Voice Matters youth survey, with findings used to inform policing activity, educational inputs, and reassurance messaging. The 2026 survey has not yet been released but is due to go live in October.
- 8.17 Between February 2025 and February 2026, engagement activity included 13 nursery visits (288 young people), 903 primary school inputs (46,900 young people), 731 secondary school inputs (74,560 young people), and 59 further education inputs (2,610 young people).
- 8.18 Feedback mechanisms are embedded within school-based engagement, enabling young people and educators to shape and improve future inputs and identify gaps where new material is required.
- 8.19 Engagement with parents and carers is supported through surveys and focus groups conducted across the county, enabling the force to gather feedback, understand community needs, and inform service development.
- 8.20 Engagement with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) schools has improved, with dedicated work underway to develop tailored educational provision and resources to support effective engagement with parents and carers. This activity is currently in the early development phase, with collaboration ongoing with schools to design a structured programme. Formal data collection will commence following the programme's launch in September 2026.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The force recognises the importance of understanding the evolving needs of its communities and has strengthened neighbourhood engagement through the introduction of minimum standards for Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) activity and full compliance with the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee (NPG). This has been supported by an uplift of 35 additional officers into Neighbourhood Teams. The force remains committed to further developing cultural awareness and improving understanding of all communities—particularly underrepresented and seldom-heard groups—to ensure meaningful engagement that informs local priorities and strengthens public trust and confidence.

- 9.2 The force views preventative policing and deterrence as central to reducing neighbourhood crime and ASB and to strengthening public trust and confidence. This approach is underpinned by strong internal and external partnerships and a clear commitment to reducing ASB in line with the national ASB Action Plan. Initiatives such as Serious Violence Hotspot Policing, Immediate Justice, and other community-based out-of-court resolutions demonstrate this commitment. The use of Visibeat technology further enhances effectiveness by supporting targeted deployment to hotspot areas and capturing meaningful data to inform performance and improve service delivery.

10. **APPENDIX**

Problem Management Plan for juvenile ASB at Dominos in Bolsover

A Problem Management Plan was implemented by the North East SNT to address an increase in youth-related anti-social behaviour at a location in Bolsover. Analysis identified key contributing factors, enabling a targeted, partnership-based response.

Collaboration with the local authority secured funding for increased patrols, supporting the identification of those responsible and enabling early intervention. Subsequent multi-agency action delivered environmental improvements, including enhanced lighting, additional youth facilities, and improved CCTV coverage.

Evaluation demonstrated that reported ASB at the location ceased within three months, with wider analysis confirming a sustained reduction in incidents - indicating the issue was effectively resolved rather than displaced.

Rural Crime Case Study

In March 2026, two offenders were convicted for handling a stolen £40,000 telehandler taken during a burglary at a rural farm in the Derbyshire Dales. The RCT led a complex, intelligence-led investigation, working alongside the National Construction and Agriculture Theft Team (NCATT). The stolen vehicle was successfully located and recovered following the activation of a tracking device, supported by detailed analysis of ANPR, telecommunications data, CCTV, and other evidential lines of enquiry across multiple counties. Both offenders were arrested, charged on CPS advice, and subsequently convicted, receiving robust sentences. The swift recovery of the uninsured machinery prevented significant financial loss to the victim.

The investigation demonstrated a high level of analytical and evidential work, and the RCT received formal commendation from NCATT leadership for the quality and effectiveness of the investigation.