

Item 7	Question 1 Actions	
	<p>Actions: P 29 Appendix A to Actions - Police and Crime Commissioner Annual Report 21-22.</p> <p>Clear up rates on burglary: With regard to one of the actions on clear up rates, is a 4% clear up rate for residential burglary acceptable?</p>	<p>Chris Cook</p>
	<p>I find disappointing that the information I was provided with by Lincolnshire Police lacks context. I have taken this up directly with the Chief Constable as I do not wish to be in a position of explaining the operational rationale of the police. My role is to be the public representative to policing, not the policing representative to the public or this panel. The reality is, as you will know, that flat statistics do not provide a full picture. When we look back a decade, we can see figures have dropped by 50%, a huge drop and success rate on the level of domestic burglary. It is fair to say this crime is often perpetrated by a very small number of people, and often burglars are known. The challenge is finding sufficient evidence to bring about a charge. There is a disincentive in the system for perpetrators to mention additional offences to be considered. This leaves a considerable number of residents dissatisfied. Statistics until now have included other things, residential burglary has included outbuilding and shed theft. Clearly these are crimes, but not the same as having your home and possessions gone through. I am pleased we've managed to reform and will be able to isolate the crime that is domestic home break in from other things. This will enable focus on this element, which is at an unacceptable level in my view. We should remember that Lincolnshire has the largest caravan park in Europe on the East Coast, and significant static caravans, which are included in the statistics out of season when they may be unoccupied which also drives up the figures. In Lincolnshire we record on average six burglaries per day and when we drill down it is three domestics, which is low, although it doesn't mean acceptable. What I do expect from Lincolnshire Police is a better recording system with contextual information that I can use. I fully accept it looks pretty poor and I don't want to be in the situation of having to contextualise, this so an action for me.</p>	<p>PCC</p>

	Thank you, Commissioner for that very comprehensive response, I hope you will continue to raise with the Chief Constable at your accountability meetings.	Chris Cook
Item10	Delivery of the Lincolnshire Police and Crime Plan:	
Q1	Where are we at with recording on taking other crimes into account when someone is arrested, and can you clarify where you are with that in terms of how this affects the statistics?	Cllr Trotter
	It would require a national change in direction. Currently if you admit or are found guilty of three significant crimes it will affect you adversely in court, so the incentive isn't there to admit. It would need the Home Office and Ministers to take a lead, it is something I have spoken directly to them about and they are interested, but that doesn't mean they will adopt it. Only last week I spoke to the Police-Minister, and he was receptive and recognised that if we know who the perpetrator is, that where we haven't got sufficient evidence to build an individual case you clearly aren't going to get a conviction. So, we have to make sure the whole system supports victims of crime.	PCC
	Thank you, that response is appreciated.	Cllr Trotter
Q2	What proportion of the budget is allocated to dealing burglary.	Cllr Woodliffe
	We don't micromanage the budget to that level. The Chief will manage his budget appropriately and I would expect him to bring all of his resources in an appropriate way to tackle various crime types including burglary, so you can't isolate in a particular budget line.	PCC
	I believe it's about the perception of burglary and how that is tackled and public appreciation of the work.	Cllr Woodliffe
	The perception point is very valid one. The fear of burglary is something that is very concerning and one of the top three things that makes people feel unsafe in their home. It's important that the police are transparent and delivering flat statistics isn't doing that, so they need to do better in being clear to the public on what they are doing.	PCC

<p>Q3</p>	<p>As you can see there's a good smattering of ex-police officers around the table and interesting to see how recording of crime has changed over time. The taken into considerations (TICs) were a brilliant way to clear up on crime but I can understand because it was abused why it's been frowned upon as being used. Because of the advances in forensic science, is it worth you considering if you can place an offender's DNA on the scene of crime a worthwhile exercise. I'm trying to think of ways that we could push for more money to be brought in to examine the forensic results of crime scenes.</p>	<p>Cllr Marsh</p>
	<p>The reality is it's a devolved budget. I've challenged successive chief constables on whether we need to spend more on forensics. I do have to refer to the Chief Constable on the operational side and I was at a national meeting yesterday where we were looking at new options for how policing nationally, including Lincolnshire, could be more proactive in looking at all levels of operational resources. There are no barriers from my perspective on where the chief spends, and I'll continue to question appropriately. It's fair to say for everything we do to counter criminality, criminals often get ahead with a new perspective. It's an ongoing battle but I will always support the chief on doing what can be done.</p>	<p>PCC</p>
<p>Q4</p>	<p>Community Safety and Prevention in Partnership: 2.1.1 Lincoln Prison launched a teaching restaurant in May 2023. What is the re offending evaluation timeline/ effectiveness of the scheme and who will evaluate it?</p>	<p>Chris Cook</p>
	<p>Anything that develops the skills of people in custody to enable them to become useful members of society is to be welcomed and this is a brilliant scheme. The evaluation is expected in around a year's time. The scheme will provide proper skills and qualifications and also in front of house experience and is an ideal opportunity for people to go from training directly into employment. The feeling throughout the prison is one of a governor who knows how to get people to payback and equip them to train and not reoffend. People consider Lincoln a local prison, although it doesn't mean everyone in there is from Lincolnshire, a significant amount of people are from outside of the county. This will change though as Leicestershire is opening another prison. Often, the challenge with training is that people don't stay very long so you have</p>	<p>PCC</p>

	to train fast enough before they are transferred elsewhere. What the scheme has done is to demonstrate genuine opportunities in Lincoln Prison that would help. That has meant behaviour has improved as you must meet the standard to embark on the scheme. You must also sign up to things like literacy and numeracy in preparation. There are opportunities for well-behaved prisoners to have additional family contact at certain times and I hope this will be part of the evaluation. A positive scheme in my view.	
	Why has it taken so long for Lincolnshire to pick this type of scheme up when it's been in operation elsewhere for between 10 and 15 years.	Cllr Woodliffe
	I can't speak for the governor, but he's really positive and it's entirely within his gift which schemes he runs. We've provided the funding to make this happen through a partnership approach for Lincolnshire. We also now have an Employment Board at the prison to connect further which either myself or my deputy attends.	PCC
	I think the scheme is fantastic. What are you doing to ensure that employers are positive about taking on ex-convicts and ensure this is driven through from the training to employment.	Cllr Bailey
	An excellent point. These schemes have built in employers who would like to work with the schemes, in this case a national charity is involved that has links to major employers, this provides instant credibility that makes others think and get on board. The Employment Board also seeks routes to employers to try to bridge those gaps. We know you are less likely to offend with these provisos, you also find it easier to get accommodation if you have a job. The Reducing Re-offending Board, looks at practicalities like release times, for example people were released on a Friday afternoon where there's less access to support services.	PCC
	Thank-you Commissioner, and hopefully you can bring back the evaluation when it's completed in due course.	Chris Cook
Q5	Paragraph 2.1.7 The Serious Violence Duty: What is the overall budget for this duty and who has primacy on its allocation?	Chris Cook
	This is laid out as a statutory duty but supported in its delivery through partnership working. The funding comes directly through the PCC; therefore, we have the reporting duty to show appropriate spend. However, we	PCC

	do work in partnership and a key partner, although not exclusively is LCC –an absolutely vital element in this, and this links through to the Adult Safeguarding Board, the Children’s Safeguarding Partnership and the core priority group work through the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership, that core priority group is chaired jointly by Councillor Bradwell and my deputy PCC to ensure a partnership approach. The money provided from government is on a formula basis, I believe it’s £650k from government, and in addition to that, I have already committed to put aside £3m for violence and harm reduction across the county, so we have a significantly larger budget than the duty provides. The decision on spend does have to come through my office as I have to sign off but does not mean less of a partnership approach to this.	
	Like with all groups, it takes a while to get on the running track, but we are on the journey.	Cllr Bradwell
Q.6	Under Para 3.1.3 of the Police and Crime Plan Delivery report, reference is made to the recent PEEL inspection of Lincolnshire Police and a briefing on the Police response. Could the Commissioner inform the Panel as to what this response is. Furthermore, is he satisfied as to that response bearing in mind the extremely disappointing findings in some aspects of the PEEL inspection.	George Krawiec
	If I can clarify the question. If you are asking for a detailed response on the entirety of the PEEL Report, I would need to respond in writing.	PCC
	Bearing in mind the report came out in March, I am somewhat disappointed that this hasn’t been provided to this panel.	George Krawiec
	No report has been requested as far as I am aware.	PCC
	I don’t think it needed to be by request it should have been provided automatically on such an important matter. But a report to the next meeting would be welcome.	George Krawiec
	The Public Assurance Meeting on 12th would be the first opportunity to publicly hold the Chief Constable to account on this, obviously I’m happy to provide any reports to the Panel, but it’s not appropriate for me to second guess what you want. .	PCC
	So can we request a report after your public meeting?	Chris Cook
	Yes.	PCC
	I would appreciate the view of the PCC too about this report.	Cllr Burke

	This report is exceedingly detailed, and there is a question nationally if forward looking enough, that's not a Lincolnshire issue but nevertheless a challenge, so I want the Chief to respond first and then more than happy to report back to you on that.	PCC
Q7	5.1.1 Serious and Organised Crime. East Midlands Special Operations Unit (EMSOU) was inspected in March and graded inadequate. The Lincolnshire part was graded Requires Improvement. Is the PCC satisfied with the proposals to remedy this situation?	Chris Cook
	One of the challenges is it's a new area for inspection nationally and it proved problematic to compare different units, that were all different in their make-up. It's fair to say in the East Midlands, none of the forces accept what they are saying as they have concerns there's significant flaws in the methodology employed. Hopefully, that will improve into the future. But, also fair to say some of the personnel that constructed some of the genuine issues are no longer working within east midlands with a resulting more positive collaborative approach which is really welcome. There are challenges, but from my point of view I'm committed long term to working with EMSOU as an exceedingly good way of delivering. Some of the challenges highlighted such as lack of a three year budget plan rest on us getting a three year budget from the Home Office. But from my point of view, we are committed to providing a sustainable budget for EMSOU. The Chief Constables are clear they have work to do, the particular criticism for Lincolnshire was linked to how much was put into the unit, whether we have the domestic capability as well as the regional, this remains a cost issue, but what do we do less of, so always an operational matter.	PCC
	Thank you for your response. I was slightly confused myself by mixed messages in it.	Chris Cook
Q8.	Given the recent announcement from the Metropolitan Police regarding responding to certain mental health incidents and we know Humberside Police are piloting the scheme, are there any similar plans for Lincolnshire?	Chris Cook
	There is a national agreement from Ministry of Health, Ministry of Policing and the Home Secretary that the scheme created in Humberside will be rolled out nationally. The timescale is probably a year or more	PCC

	<p>until all the various elements are in a position to be rolled out. I don't believe it's wise to give an arbitrary deadline of withdrawing service to vulnerable members of the public that you have been providing a service to. Therefore, I do not support instantly stopping the provision of a in a timescale that no partner could run a recruitment process, nobody could do that in three months. I do know there are conversations ongoing between Police and Health at appropriate levels, and I've spoken at a strategic level with health partners. You'll be aware there are a number of areas where we spend on mental health because it's the right thing to do, for example we pay for mental health professional to be in force control room to field mental health enquiries. In the first year, this assisted 1251 people with support and diverted around 500 people away from police custody and is invest to save. It also leads to the police triage vehicles that we also fund, but the problem is getting enough trained people from the health side to work closely with partners to ensure that can happen. Government put money into bespoke mental health programmes, but Lincolnshire wasn't successful in attracting any funding. My concern is at the moment, transportation of people with mental health issues in a police vehicle is totally inappropriate and I'll be working with partners on this. It's inappropriate untrained police officers (in a mental health capacity) are attending where someone's life isn't at risk, although there will be situations where if life is at risk, it is appropriate.</p>	
<p>Q9</p>	<p>6.1.1 Precept Commitments – Page 39/40 I note that in 6.1.1, it states maintaining police officer numbers, retaining police officer numbers at 1186, bolstering local neighbourhood teams, preventing, tackling crime, and protecting communities, but it also states in 6.1.6 more officers on shift when you need them, investment in a revised deployment model to place officers on duty in peak demand periods, thereby improving incident response times. Please can the PCC confirm logistically how this can be achieved, with the limited resources available, less PCSO's, would this mean that Police Officers would be asked to work more late shifts and weekends (peak times). I assume perhaps more casework would be generated from these peak times potentially therefore the "off peak" officers would pick up the caseload the following day when they</p>	<p>Cllr Trotter</p>

	<p>should be protecting the neighbourhoods and preventing crime. Will there be a pot of money to bolster the team numbers and will this be funded by overtime/rest day working, putting already more pressure on the Police Officers Lincolnshire Police already employ. If this is to be the case potentially sickness could increase lowering numbers if response officers. Will officers be moved around to bolster numbers or are you looking for a separate budget and hope it's not robbing Peter to pay Paul?</p>	
	<p>Deployment is always for the Chief Constable. I don't decide where resources are, that's the Chiefs job. It's always a challenge in any force, an element of priority. If a call comes in on 999 it's got to be prioritised, this takes priority. There is a record budget to the Police Constable. It was £112m and is now £150m. Therefore, the Chief has choices strategically on what he spends and where. He's made his choices and where he's increased the number of people answering 111, he's doing something about that. On the flip side, PSCOs are not half the price of a police officer, they are not that different in the early stages. He may choose to invest in overtime where appropriate. I don't think he's robbing to pay Paul but just prioritising in respect of the demand and I think he's currently getting it right given the info I receive.</p>	PCC
Q10.	<p>Based on similar lines – queries raised by new councillors who aren't clear on the difference between operational and strategic matters. One refers to issues in Wragby where people ride bikes through housing estates, and they are losing their PCSO and a similar one in Spilsby – their PCSO is leaving and again concerns from communities that the resource is being sucked away. I will let you have a copy of these emails to assist and perhaps you can respond directly.</p>	Cllr Marsh
	<p>It's always concerning when we have these types of issues from communities, there are a number of councils that have contacted me, and I will respond directly on sharing of details. It's fair to say I've been disappointed on some of the ways that the way the changes, some driven by necessity, have been communicated. The problem is the strategy was well meant, but didn't explain the alternative, I don't think the force understands the impact of this and I've got work to do to get them to fully understand how communities feel. It's not just about crime, it's about</p>	PCC

	<p>feeling safe, when we've had situations before in Lincoln, people were fearful about going into town to do their shopping, which impacted on their quality of life and made people feel less safe. This is another example of where I think policing doesn't always get the message right or understand the impact of getting it wrong. It's been made worse, in my view, that some people directly affected by changes from an employment perspective, have attended public meetings and not necessarily given an appropriate account of what is happening. I'm urging the force to get the message right, to ensure they engage with communities, so they understand. Changes to PCSOs is an operational matter but it comes on the back of a significant increase in officer numbers, specifically community beat managers and there's a long term commitment to bolster community beat teams. The Chiefs decision is to invest in warranted officers and to keep PSCOs, but where they can engage in community issues, but it's the forces job to ensure that people feel safe, and I'll keep working on that.</p>	
<p>Q11.</p>	<p>What measures are you undertaking to hold the Chief Constable to account on the perception of crime in Boston town centre. There are a number of various dispersal orders given to youth in town. For Boston, if the town centre becomes a no go area there's a huge impact commercially and for the people of Boston. It's all down to perception.</p>	<p>Cllr Woodliffe</p>
	<p>I agree perception is most important. People of Boston deserve to be and feel safe just as elsewhere in the county. We know from our annual survey that the perception of crime is disproportionate to the reality of crime in Boston. Elections are a particular pinch point that can set individual against individual, it's particularly corrosive when it comes to policing community safety when they are continually told by people canvassing votes that the situation is worse than it is. A really important element in this is the partnership approach. To that end, I'm organising a meeting with Councils across the county to make sure we are all together on this and fully briefed on the Chiefs strategy. I'm meeting with others to work together, and a number of schemes can assist, for example warden schemes, these are very successful as a preventative measure and provide a general feeling of safety. We can also work together to help keep</p>	<p>PCC</p>

	graffiti off our streets, so the answer isn't solely a policing one, a key partner is local government and I'm absolutely 100% ready to make sure community feels safe.	
	Councils will do everything they can, clean streets have been a priority for some time in Boston. But there is a problem, not just about collection, this problem about safety perception has been there for several years, people don't feel safe. Councils will do everything they can to support the police in whatever way they can, but ensuring safety in the streets is down to the direction of the Chief Constable.	Cllr Woodliffe
	If I may for clarity, you have made a last minute change to the premise of your question which was about the perception, which I was saying is very much a partnership approach, if the streets are well tended that generally adds to the feeling of safety, you are absolutely right that the actual safety of residents is down to the direction of the Chief Constable and very different to the perception of safety. As you've highlighted, the risk of being a victim of crime in Boston is no greater than in other places in the county, but there is a general perception issue in Boston. It isn't for the Police to break up groups of lawful people, but the perception is something we can work together on.	PCC
	I agree with everything you've said, and it comes down to presence and although operational matters are very important, I'd not be undertaking my role if I didn't raise this.	Cllr Woodliffe
	It isn't just Boston and I agree it needs a partnership approach. And as the PCC said, police can't move them on if they aren't doing anything wrong. It's about the community and partners working together with the Police. You do need to go back to your Chief Executive and raise through the Leaders Meeting. It's worth noting that the major towns still have some PCSOs.	Cllr Bradwell
Q12	The Chief Constable gave a speech this morning and made me think of this question. We've all reflected this year, that this is the worse year for the police service in general for some terrible reasons. The vast number of police officers are doing a good job. I'm sure the Chief Constable and you too, feel that public confidence in the police is suffering because of terrible events. What I'd like to ask you in your strategic role locally and nationally is what measures you have in mind to	Cllr Burke

	restore public confidence in the police service as a body. Is there a strategic view to restore confidence in the service that needs public consideration.	
	Once you know there's an issue and you decide to deal with it, you find more issues because you are looking for them. The Police are determined to put their house in order, but inevitably will find more issues in sorting things out and it's difficult to say how long that will take. That process can undermine the morale of staff and the last thing we want in ensuring an appropriate culture. Lincolnshire are leading on number of work strands around culture and also nationally so aren't immune to these issues, there are numerous examples in every force throughout the country. It's about backing but being accountable when necessary. In Lincolnshire we are looking at opportunities to engage with chairs of Town and Parish Councils to explain what we are doing in a more strategic way, and I don't think policing always gets the importance of communicating.	PCC
Q13.	Justice delayed is justice denied. Recent reports indicates nationally that cases waiting to be heard in both magistrates and crown courts have been delayed, is this the case in Lincolnshire and what actions are you taking.	George Krawiec
	Court backlogs are a significant risk to justice generally for the public, and a really important point. Magistrates Courts are doing better than Crown Courts. Obviously, data is shared with us, and sometimes we can't share further therefore it's not as transparent as I would like, but that sits with the judiciary and not me. In addition to a Regional Criminal Justice Board that meets six monthly, we now have a Lincolnshire Criminal Justice Board chaired by my deputy working in partnership to deal with issues. Lincolnshire figures compare favourably but there's still more to do. I don't think we quite get this right yet; we need to free up court time and expedite justice. One area is around drink driving, where a summary option could take thousands of people out of the court process and deal with quickly.	PCC
Q14.	What is the latest position on the funding formula.	Cllr Bailey
	We are at the point now where all factors have been considered, a new formula is there and we need the Home Office to consult on this, I'd expect a public consultation. At this stage I can't say when it will be introduced but there is a commitment from ministers to	PCC

	introduce and it's expected within this parliament, so before January 2025. It may be sometime before areas benefit though due to the transition arrangements.	
	Will Lincolnshire be better off, and will the process be completed as it wasn't previously.	Cllr Woodliffe
	A ministerial decision finally, but we have tried to ensure that the things considered are those that affect us in a more rural county.	PCC
	My residents call for CCTV areas to be expanded in towns, are you considering this at all?	Cllr Wooten
	We know the benefits of CCTV, but what we've had in Lincolnshire is a system of different systems that don't work in tandem, so we've commissioned a report to see where we can be in a state of readiness to apply for any funding when the opportunity arises. I would love to see it expanded and enhanced but got to be in a controlled way for privacy, looking at how to create efficiencies for district colleagues where some of that money could be spent in other ways for their benefit.	PCC
	Thank-you Commissioner for your attendance and comprehensive responses today and we wish you well both locally and nationally on achieving a proper funding formula.	Chris Cook
	Thank you for your comments –I anticipated a question on RAF Scampton as to the state of readiness of Lincolnshire Police. Just to assure the Panel that the Chief and I meet on a regular basis and discuss any requirements, plus the wider concerns of the public and safety. In addition, I sit on the weekly Leadership Group where we discuss in the round. I pass no comment or opinion, my job is to make sure the Chief has the right resources and by way of that I've been having robust discussions with the Home Office and by extension with the Home Office and immigration and am confident those negotiations will result in any additional support required to Lincolnshire Police.	PCC
	Perhaps you could update the panel at our September meeting when more is known.	Chris Cook
	We try to avoid political questions, but I'm interested to know what level of consultation has taken place district wide. Is it your view that a proper level of consultation took place with yourself?	Cllr Burke
	It's always difficult when you get ministerial decisions being made because you are consulted after their announcement. My access to Ministers has been	PCC

	superb, and I've been able to speak directly with the Police Minister and Home Secretary and others.	
	Housing of migrants. We've had this enforced on us at Skegness, and I'd just ask that you remember us and the appropriate amount of policing in our holiday area and I'm not aware that any consultation took place.	Cllr Marsh
	Yes, it is as you say a national challenge when they're using hotel accommodation. It may be difficult for agencies to put appropriate support in. It is useful for the east coast that a published plan sets out in a clear way what the proposals from the chief constable are.	PCC