

**Update from Superintendent Lee St Quinton on concerns about local policing and the effects following the removal of PCSOs:**

There remains local neighbourhood policing teams in each district, each one headed up by a dedicated neighbourhood inspector. Our work is very much partnership based and we do not solve any community issues in isolation, as you will know our ASB teams work closely together and have ECINS as a shared platform that supports this work.

The decision the then chief constable had to make was well considered and based on an assessment of where the issues existed in Lincolnshire, the spread of the 50 remaining PCSO's was very much evidence based and aligned to the community's needs. We should be mindful that this was purely a reduction in PCSO's, when dedicated PC's, Sgts and Inspectors still form a major part of the offering.

In recent years we have seen investment in areas such as a brand-new team in Roads policing and a new rural crime team. Other areas of investment have been in areas such as digitally enabled crime, areas such as our cyber-crime team. With Fraud at 41% of all crime and a large proportion of this figure being online enabled, we have had to think carefully around where we need to place our officers, PCSO's and staff members. As crime has moved more online and lots of vulnerable victims losing significant amounts of money, we must adapt and respond accordingly to this need.

Finally, our Chief constable and PCC continue to lobby the government for a fairer funding deal for Lincolnshire which would see new investment.