

RAG Briefing – October 2021



Headline Update

PCC developing refreshed Police and Crime Plan for Hertfordshire

The PCC is currently developing the new Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan for Hertfordshire, *Everybody's Business*, which will set out his ambition and vision for community safety and criminal justice across the county over the coming years.

More information on some of the key themes including an emphasis on evidence-based policing, data-driven decision making and a preventative approach to tackling crime and disorder can be found in the PCC's 2021 manifesto: [My Manifesto | David Lloyd \(david-lloyd.org.uk\)](#)

Recent developments – including the Constabulary's approach around 'Prevention First' agenda and the record-breaking size of the county's police force – present a major opportunity to tackle crime and disorder and protect the residents of Hertfordshire.

Collaboration with district partners is essential to delivering on the priorities of the plan and the PCC wants to ensure the local perspective is considered at an early stage. Once a draft of the plan is complete, the OPCC will invite district partners to provide feedback and help shape proposals.

Latest News

Use of Police Powers Scrutiny Panel

The PCC will establish a new Use of Police Powers Scrutiny Panel in the autumn, which will review body worn video (BWV) footage to scrutinise the use of all police powers – looking at compliance as well as themes, trends and learning to enable improvement in the use of these powers across the Constabulary. Introducing this new panel will expand capacity to review more footage of a wider range of coercive powers including handcuffs, spray, pava, taser etc., beyond those already scrutinised such as stop and search. The panel will be supported by the OPCC with advertising and recruitment to start in September 2021. Details of how members of the public can join the panel will be shared in due course.

PCC funds mental health support for offenders

The PCC has provided funding to increase the uptake of mental health treatment for offenders in Hertfordshire. An award of £57,958 has been made from the Community Safety and Criminal Justice

budget for the two-year project. The money will be used to pay for clinical psychologists to work with and counsel offenders across the county. The service will be operated by the Hertfordshire Partnership Foundation Trust and involves increasing the uptake of mental health treatment by male offenders as part of a Community Sentence Treatment Requirement (CSTR) court order. It will complement the existing drug/alcohol treatment delivered within a CSTR.

Safer Streets – funding from the Home Office for crime prevention projects

Safer Streets (3) Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) in Hatfield

This month the OPCC was awarded Home Office Safer Streets funding to the sum of £548,176.00 to work in multi-agency partnership to raise awareness of and prevent VAWG among Hatfield's student population, as well as to implement measures to improve the safety of a network of underpasses in the town centre. The project is aimed at empowering students of the University of Hertfordshire to understand and recognise VAWG, keep themselves safe from these types of dangers, and look out for each other. The refurbishment of the town centre underpasses is aimed at cultivating a positive cycle of improved safety, greater footfall and natural surveillance – opening up more public space in the community for all people – women in particular – to feel safe and secure to use.

Some examples of the key pieces of work include the following:

Measures to improve safety of Hatfield's underpasses

- Repair, target-hardening, and repositioning of lighting.
- Installation of security mirrors at underpass entry and exit points to eliminate blind spots.
- Removal of benches to discourage ASB linked to congregating in these places.

Initiatives with University of Hertfordshire students

- Crimestoppers-led campaign to raise awareness of VAWG and encourage reporting.
- Rollout of vouchers for purchase of personal safety app as well as personal safety alarms.
- Bystander intervention campaigns to educate students on preventing VAWG.

For further information about the project, please contact Glenn Edwards, Policy and Project Officer: glenn.edwards@herts-pcc.gov.uk

Opportunities to help progress the PCC's Community Safety & Criminal Justice Plan

Community Safety & Criminal Justice Budget

For this year's funding rounds, the Commissioner has introduced a commissioning-based approach that is targeted and specific in delivering the community safety and criminal justice activity outlined in the 2019–24 Community Safety & Criminal Justice (CS&CJ) Plan.

The Plan recognised the need to bring in greater business benefits as a result of being more targeted and specific, fully understanding and scoping current and future demand, identifying gaps and need and importantly, desired priority outcomes.

By adopting the following process, the Commissioner hopes to effectively evaluate competing priorities and enable collaborative work with partners:

Steps 1 & 2: Analyse / Understand need / Plan

The OPCC will work with Hertfordshire Constabulary, service providers, partners and the community to understand the service needs in Hertfordshire for which the Commissioner has responsibility and assess the extent to which the needs are being met and how.

Together with research, data and consultation feedback from users, providers and partners, will help determine the key drivers of demand, gaps in service delivery and outcomes. This will enable a greater assessment of where the Commissioner can add value and make a positive impact.

Designated OPCC staff will support applicants during the scoping phase and have a role in overseeing the delivery of the service/project including supporting applicants to manage risks.

Step 3: Assess and Approve Proposals

Proposals submitted will be assessed /scored against set criterion which in the interests of transparency will be published on the OPCC's webpage. The highest scoring proposals in relation to technical expertise and specialism, including ability to deliver to time and within budgets, will be invited to present their proposal to the Commissioner. This will enable applicants to expand on the detail of their proposal, including any areas for development identified by the assessment including any anticipated risks.

Successful proposals will be awarded funding for up to 1 year, with potential for multi-year funding awards dependent upon satisfactory progress during year 1. Where relevant, it is expected that funding may reduce incrementally for multi-year award to ensure sustainability of delivery beyond the life of the funding. There will be a competitive element to this stage which all applicants will be made aware of.

Step 4: Review, Monitor & Evaluate

Proposals awarded funding would be required to report performance on a quarterly basis and present an annual review at the relevant Board/Partnership. This enables the Commissioner to understand how well the activities that have been commissioned are delivering the priorities and outcomes in the CS&CJ Plan.

Full project evaluation is required to be submitted at the end of the project with the evaluation framework agreed prior to the project initiation.

How to apply

This [CS&CJ webpage](#) will advertise further details including criteria and opportunities for organisations to submit proposals to deliver on key 2021/22 priorities that will help secure the best provision of services that promote crime reduction and support victims/witnesses across Hertfordshire.

21/22 awards to date

2 grants have been awarded to date in the areas of Serious Violence (young people) and Reducing Offending (early intervention). Please see the following [2021/22 Awards webpage](#) for more details.

Police and Crime Commissioner's Action Fund 2021/22

Grants of up to £5,000 are available to help support community and voluntary initiatives which will reduce crime and make Hertfordshire a safer place to live by helping to deliver the priorities of the [Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan: Everybody's Business \(2019- 2024\)](#).

Using funds recovered under the Proceeds of Crime Act, the Fund enables local groups to find solutions to community safety problems. The Commissioner is keen to work with and fund a range of organisations from the community who have a shared interest in delivering positive outcomes and improved services for residents.

2021/22 Awards to date

The Commissioner awarded grants to 6 projects in Round 1. This included funding towards enhanced healthy relationships/safeguarding work in schools, targeted diversionary activities for young people referred by community safety partners and a mobile communications unit.

14 bids submitted within Round 2 are currently being assessed before being presented to the Commissioner for approval.

How to Apply

The 3rd Round of applications will close on **26th October 2021**. For more information, including eligibility and grant criteria, please visit the website <http://www.hertscf.org.uk/pcc-action-fund>

Fly-Tipping on Private Land Fund



The fund is open for bids. Please see the [Fly Tipping Fund webpage](#) for details and how to apply.

The Commissioner expanded the pilot's criteria to include unregistered land which enables the more urban parts of the county to be eligible for support. As a result, the pilot is now operating in all ten districts across the county and we encourage councils across the county to make best use of the funding that is available to them.

The pilot continues to support efforts to improve the prevention of fly tipping. The Constabulary Rural Support Team ensure intelligence opportunities are gathered at the scene before a clearance. They also carry out a Crime Prevention Assessment and make recommendations for target hardening opportunities to secure the land.

Fly tipping issues are often raised to the Commissioner and by working together with local authority partners, real steps have been taken to address it. This includes SNT Police Officers working closely with Investigating Council Officers to visit crime scenes together and share intelligence. The OPCC sits on the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership and Fly-Tipping Group which seeks to make the case for longer-term national reforms; these include addressing sentencing leniency and clearance costs incurred by landowners. The learning from the Fly-Tipping Fund pilot will feed into the learnings of these groups to strengthen our shared understanding of the prevalence, risks and opportunities in tackling fly tipping.

2021/22 Awards to date

The PCC has already awarded almost £8,000 towards 7 clearances in Broxbourne, Welwyn Hatfield, North Herts, East Herts, Watford & Dacorum as well as match funding for high visibility signs. The removals have included green, vehicle parts, white goods, other household waste, electrical, construction / demolition, and other commercial and household waste.

Further information can be found at <https://www.hertscommissioner.org/fly-tipping>

If you have any questions about the progress of the Commissioner's Fly-Tipping on Private Land Pilot, please contact flytipping@herts-pcc.gov.uk

Road Safety

Road Safety Fund



7 awards have just been made from the first round of the 2021/22 scheme covering 6 of the 10 districts in Hertfordshire. This includes potential installation of up to 8 speed indicator devices and a safe cycling public awareness initiative.

The overarching aim of the fund is to find new, innovative and sustainable ways of improving road safety, supporting a mix of education and enforcement to achieve behaviour change solutions and interventions which focus on preventing/reducing road casualties including minimising anti-social road use. Bids to the RSF should also evidence how they potentially free up constabulary officer time.

The RSF may be used to fund 'community concern' speed management schemes and measures with a focus on education (e.g. cycle safety training, older driver assessments) and enforcement (e.g. camera technology) rather than engineering measures (e.g. traffic calming, signage) which are an HCC Highways function.

A further round will be open for Expressions of Interest towards the end of 2021.

Please see the [Road Safety Fund website](#) for further information.

If you have any questions regarding the Road Safety Fund please e-mail Grants@herts-pcc.gov.uk

Commissioner's Road Safety Camera Vans 1-year pilot to begin



The initiative involving deployment of four road safety camera vans in areas where speeding is of concern to the public is to officially start in October 2021 and run until the end of September 2022. In-year monitoring and evaluation will determine the effectiveness and next steps beyond the pilot.

The Commissioner is looking to be able to deploy the van in each of the 10 districts at least twice a week. The vans are intended to attend those areas across the county which do not have records relating to accidents, collisions or injuries, but are perceived by the community as an area of concern and requiring a road safety intervention to prevent accidents and support a change in behaviour.

The vans will provide coverage across the county and will be tasked in response to public concerns, intelligence and information highlighting at-risk areas – this can come from local residents, Councillors, local authorities or via feedback channels including Echo and priority setting forums.

To date, over 250 deployments have taken place across Hertfordshire leading to the production of over 650 advisory letters being sent to speeding motorists.

Enquiries and requests for potential van deployment can be sent to PPCVans@herts-pcc.gov.uk

Countywide Stop & Search Update

Countywide stop & search data is being provided to give some insight into stop & search in Hertfordshire. Whilst we have an independent countywide scrutiny panel who review this data, each RAG also plays a key role in reviewing the data, including complaints, for their own district. This overview should help to improve transparency and public confidence in what is a coercive power.

The data covers stop & searches undertaken from January 2021 – August 2021. The average number of stop & searches that have been undertaken is 706. The average arrest rate from January 2021 is 16.2% and the average positive disposal rate is 27.1%.

Please note there have been some changes to the way that the arrest rate is reported and the table below has seen the data updated from January 2021. Previously arrest rates only related to arrest (as a result of items found). The Home Office have recently updated their guidance to state that both arrest (as a result of items found) and arrest (not related to the stop) should be classified as arrest. The latter is where nothing is found in the stop but an arrest takes place at the time of the stop e.g., due to warrant or public order. With this addition we see an increase in % arrests and % positive disposals in the table below.

This data was pulled off the Constabulary system (TuServ) in September 2021 and it is important to add in a caveat about data quality; the data is subject to further finalisation which may result in the figures fluctuating slightly.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Average
Total stops	745	805	867	787	610	541	620	672	706
Arrests	110	116	139	134	108	86	92	132	115
Other Positive disposals (Excl. Arrests)	85	105	90	60	66	61	76	70	77
Total Positive disposals (Incl. Arrests)	195	221	229	194	174	147	168	202	191
% arrests	14.8%	14.4%	16.0%	17.0%	17.7%	15.9%	14.8%	19.6%	16.2%
% positive disposals	26.2%	27.5%	26.4%	24.7%	28.5%	27.2%	27.1%	30.1%	27.1%

CSP	Broxbourne	Dacorum	East Herts	Hertsmere	North Herts	St Albans	Stevenage	Three Rivers	Watford	Welwyn/Hatfield	Roads	Out of Force	Total
Total stops	94	85	44	40	53	64	95	39	92	45	1	20	672
Arrests	12	25	5	20	7	21	15	3	7	11	0	6	132
Other Positive disposals	10	17	4	10	1	3	7	5	9	2	1	1	70
Total Positive disposals (Incl. Arrests)	22	42	9	30	8	24	22	8	16	13	1	7	202
% arrests	13%	29%	11%	50%	13%	33%	16%	8%	8%	24%	0%	30%	20%
% positive disposals	23%	49%	20%	75%	15%	38%	23%	21%	17%	29%	100%	35%	30%