

Annual Report

2016 - 17



RON HOGG

DURHAM POLICE, CRIME
AND VICTIMS' COMMISSIONER

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Introduction

2016-17 has been a satisfying and successful year as Durham Constabulary was rated 'Outstanding' for the third year in a row, but there are still challenges ahead.

After being re-elected to this role, I decided to change my job title to Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner in order to emphasise the priority I want to give to victims in my second term. I released my new Police, Crime and Victims' Plan in November. This followed extensive consultation with local people, which enabled me to get a really good understanding of local issues. The Plan builds on its predecessors. There are some new objectives, focusing on the needs of victims of crime and anti-social behaviour, and some objectives which appeared in the previous plan.

HM Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) has once again identified Durham Constabulary as the best police force in the country for effectiveness. Durham was the only force to be rated as 'outstanding' in the effectiveness inspection, and one of only two to achieve the same rating for efficiency.

I was therefore delighted that Chief Constable Mike Barton agreed to an extension to his contract to 2021. Mike was joined this year by the new Deputy Chief Constable, Jo Farrell. In an inspection about

leadership, they commented that they regard the leadership of Durham Constabulary to be of outstanding quality compared to all other Forces.

It is to the Constabulary's credit that these achievements have been made against a background of continued cuts to Police funding. The Force now has 400 fewer officers than in 2010, and there have also been reductions in the number of police staff, and PCSOs. I have campaigned to Government to ensure that we receive a fair funding settlement, taking into account the specific needs of communities in Durham and Darlington.

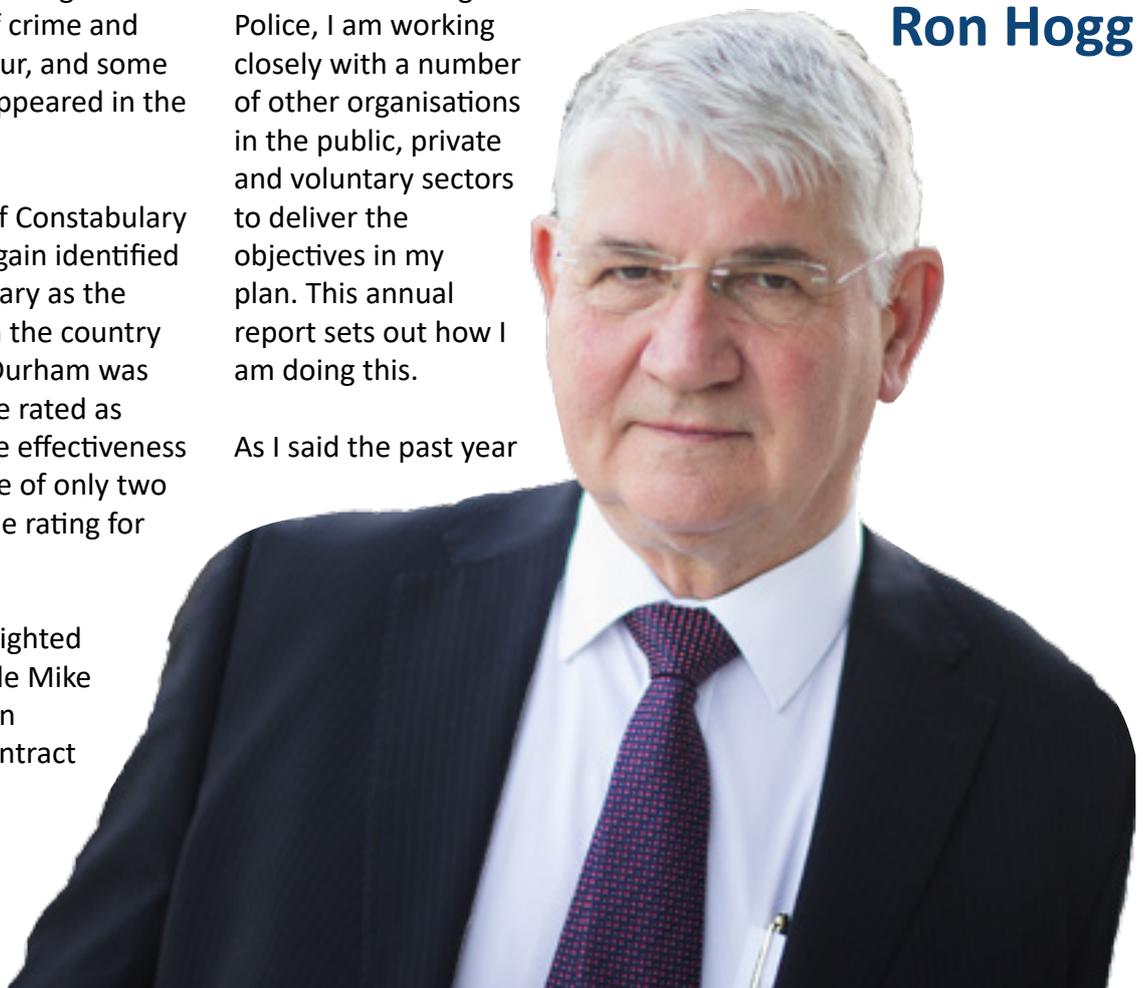
As well as working with the Police, I am working closely with a number of other organisations in the public, private and voluntary sectors to deliver the objectives in my plan. This annual report sets out how I am doing this.

As I said the past year

has been satisfying, but there continue to be challenges ahead. The nature of crime is changing and becoming more complex, particularly due to developments in technology. I will be working with partners to develop innovative solutions to improve community safety, tackle crime and its underlying causes, and improve services for victims.

The Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner for County Durham & Darlington

Ron Hogg



Some of the Key Achievements in 2016-17

Durham Constabulary is the best force in the country, for the third year running.

Review of the Local Criminal Justice Board leads to a seamless service for victims.

Durham's first Young Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner elected.

Rural Crime and Policing Statement launched.

Collaboration with County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service extended.

First 'quad-station' in the country opened in Barnard Castle.

Checkpoint programme winning a national Howard League for Penal Reform Award.

Rape Scrutiny Panel gives effective challenge on behalf of rape victims.

New magazine, HoggWatch, enhances communication across the Force area.

Bespoke Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS) launched on behalf of all victims.

Restorative Justice pilot supporting victims in Durham Crown Court.

Campaigning for fair funding settlement, and changes to policies which affect quality of life.

20,000 people attended the Celebration of Local Superheroes public event.

Supported numerous community and partner events including Durham Pride.

446 cases handled by the Restorative Hub.

PCVC office re-located to Police Headquarters.

Purchase of a building for the North East Regional Specialist Operations Unit (NERSOU).



Young PCVC Nathan and PCVC Ron Hogg



The new quad-station in Barnard Castle



Launch of VCAS

My Police, Crime and Victims' Plan 2016-21

My new plan builds on the previous plan, and adds some new aims, objectives and approaches.

The three key aims for the plan, and the measures used to monitor progress against them, are set out below:



Ron Hogg and Chair of the Police & Crime Panel 2015-17 Cllr Joy Allen

Aims	Outcomes	Current performance
Inspire confidence in the police and criminal justice system	Confidence and trust in the police and criminal justice system is high	73% of people have confidence on Durham Constabulary (Year end 16/17)
Support victims and the vulnerable	Victims and the vulnerable are supported	87% of victims are satisfied with the 'whole experience' (Year end 16/17)
Tackle crime and keep our communities safe	Crime is tackled and communities feel safe	25.4% increase* in recorded victim based crime (Year end 16/17)

My plan is online at:

www.durham-pcc.gov.uk

I also publish a quarterly performance report which provides detailed information on the achievement of each objective.

*A number of changes to recording rules explain much of the increase.

Highlights of 2016-17

I set out in my Police, Crime and Victims' Plan my aims, objectives and approaches for the period to 2021. The Plan is where I set out what I expect the Police to achieve over that period, in conjunction with partners. In this section, I set out what has been delivered over the past year.

Listening and learning from communities has shaped my Police, Crime and Victims' Plan

My latest Plan is based on wide-ranging discussions with local people from all parts of County Durham and Darlington, in addition to strategic assessments carried out by the force, and wider evidence.

Every week I make an effort to meet local people from across the whole of the Force area. Often I attend community events, other times local meetings, and whenever I can I spend a full day with a local community and find out what issues they are facing. I collaborate with the Police, Area Action Partnerships and other community and interest groups to understand how the needs in each local area are changing.

For the past two years I have hosted the 'Celebration of Local Superheroes'. It is great to see so many people enjoying spending time with Police Officers, Fire Fighters, Mountain Rescuers, the Coastguard and RNLI officers. In October 2016, 20,000 people attended the event at Locomotion in Shildon, and I took the opportunity to speak to as many of them as possible, from all backgrounds and areas. At the same time as we all delivered messages about how to keep your



PCVC's Celebration of local Superheroes 2016

community safe, I was able to hear about what works well, and what doesn't, when we provide services to local people.

It is important to me to speak to people from the full range of backgrounds, age groups and areas. I have always supported the Cadets and the Mini-Police - now operating in 75 schools, and involving 1500 young people.

I was also pleased last year to support the election of the area's first Young Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner. Nathan Gaskill is a 16 year old Police Cadet from Willington. The Cadets elected him to the role, and I allocated him £10,000 to spend on community safety projects focused on young people. Nathan shadowed me on Takeover Challenge Day in November, and spent time observing traffic operations, including arrests, with the Police Interceptors. His work was also scrutinised by the Police and Crime Panel.

I have also been able to promote community safety in the media, and have appeared many times on local and national TV and Radio. BBC Breakfast broadcast a week of live programmes from Durham Constabulary, and I took the opportunity to highlight the importance of putting victims first.

I use social media to inform as many people as possible about my activities, how to improve community safety, and in particular to raise the profile of services for victims. I have started to run monthly campaigns to highlight specific issues. In February, for example, my Road Safety Campaign talked about the dangers of speeding, drink-driving, use of mobile phones and my call for harsher penalties for dangerous drivers.

As well as writing articles and columns for local and national newspapers, I launched my own magazine, HoggWatch, this year.

Understanding the demand for police services enables me to set and review focused objectives

Durham Constabulary has very sophisticated systems in place to understand the current and future demand on its Officers. I also use the intelligence which local people give me about issues in their area to help me to understand what is important, where the Force's priorities should lie, and what resources are needed. I can then review the success of initiatives designed to fulfil those objectives.



In response to concerns from rural communities, the Chief and I launched our Rural Crime and Policing Statement in March 2016. The statement recognised that the solutions in rural areas are different to those in towns. Since then we have introduced more training for call handlers to understand rural problems, more community speedwatch schemes and more cameras, better police vehicles in rural areas, improved ICT to enable officers to maximise time on the beat, and better ways for people to communicate with the Police through systems such

as Keep in the Know. One of my objectives for the Constabulary is to tackle cybercrime. Durham Constabulary's new Digital Intelligence Unit provides excellent in-house specialist capabilities, and all Officers are being trained so that addressing cybercrime is a mainstream policing function.

Communities are increasingly aware of the dangers of Child Sexual Exploitation and more and more people are reporting incidents and suspicions. This is one factor behind the inclusion of 'Safeguard vulnerable people' as an objective in my latest



plan. The ERASE programme is educating people, younger and older, to recognise the signs of abuse, and encouraging them to report those signs to the Police or other service providers. All Police Officers have been trained to deal sensitively and appropriately with cases of this nature.

I have monitored the Constabulary's response to the Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR) set by the Home Secretary, and maintained an on-going dialogue about delivering the SPR with all our partner organisations.

“The Constabulary has taken considerable steps to understand future demand, based on a detailed understanding of the changes in the demographic make-up and the impact on crime types and identified the crimes that are likely to increase in the immediate future.”

HMIC inspection of Durham Police Efficiency, 2016

Highlights of 2016-17

Working in partnership enables me to support better outcomes for local people

At a strategic level, I am an active member of the County Durham Partnership and the Darlington Partnership. I also work closely with Durham County Council and Darlington Borough Council, seeking to commission and deliver services which are joined-up when that means that they will be most effective and/or efficient.

Examples of this include:

- Working together to monitor the delivery of a drug and alcohol treatment service
- A plan for mental health professionals to work alongside Police Officers in the Police control room
- The introduction of 20mph zones in Durham City
- Planning and monitoring the delivery of domestic abuse services
- Prioritising investment in young people's futures, by funding and supporting the Youth Offending Services in Durham and Darlington

With Barry Coppinger, I co-chair the Local Criminal Justice Board. Last year, we carried out a thorough review of the Board, with our partner members. We have established a new vision for the LCJB, under which people in our area will 'have confidence in a local criminal justice system which supports

victims, rehabilitates offenders and reduces reoffending, and delivers value for money' and we are working together to share information, develop plans and deliver services, aiming to achieve this.

I have also made progress on further collaboration with the fire service, following the Statement of Intent I signed alongside the Fire and Rescue Authority Chair in December 2015. We have already agreed to collaborate on areas such as training, IT and estates.

I work closely with other PCCs across the country, and especially in the North East. Dame Vera Baird QC, Barry Coppinger and I have campaigned together to reduce violence against women and girls, to reduce drink-drive limits, and to combat cybercrime, in collaboration with the Institute of Directors. We also oversee the North East Regional Special Operations Unit, and have collaborated to purchase new state of the art premises and co-locate with the National Crime Agency.

I have also established the EVOLVE collaboration programme with Barry Coppinger from Cleveland and Julia Mulligan from North Yorkshire. This collaborative programme includes shared specialist legal services, and a shared Dog Support Unit.

Joint-working has recently led to the development of a new 'Quad-Station' which opened recently in Barnard Castle. I believe that it is the first station in the UK to

house the Police, Fire and Rescue Service, Ambulance Service and Mountain Rescue together under one roof. Apart from the obvious efficiency benefits, shared-working arrangements mean that officers from the different services are talking to each other, all the time, about incidents and solving problems.

The Constabulary has also worked with our Fire and Rescue, and Ambulance service partners following the successful pilot in Stanhope, to continue the Community Safety Responder (CSR) service. CSRs work for Durham Constabulary as PCSOs, County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service as retained firefighters and as first responders for the North East Ambulance Service.

"The Constabulary maximises the opportunities to work collaboratively with other police forces and a range of public and private sector partners and can demonstrate clearly how its joint working is transforming outcomes, reducing costs and/or building resilience."

HMIC inspection of Durham Police Efficiency, 2016



Durham PCVC Ron Hogg, Cleveland PCC Barry Coppinger, Northumbria PCC Dame Vera Baird DBE QC

Highlights of 2016-17

Being innovative helps us to be as efficient as possible

I have encouraged the Police and other partners to identify and adopt alternative ways of addressing problems to ensure that we are as efficient and effective as possible.

In the 2016 HMIC inspection of Police efficiency, Durham was the only force in the country to be rated as 'outstanding' in all three areas of the Efficiency inspection and one of two to be rated as outstanding overall. This is because the approach of the Constabulary is one of continuous review and improvement, always looking for ways to make the most of its resources.

Examples of this include:

- Checkpoint is a diversionary programme, under which first-time offenders are asked to sign a contract to agree that they will not re-offend, in return for not having to go through the Criminal Justice System. We will continue to monitor their levels of future reoffending after their completion of the scheme, and we're carrying out a randomised control trial with Cambridge University.
- Community Peer Mentors scheme, under which volunteers work with local people to help them resolve issues and reduce demands on the Police
- The Rape Scrutiny Panel has given effective challenge to the outcomes of some rape cases; the learning from these

cases will influence the way that rape cases are dealt with in the future

- Restorative Justice under which professionals and trained volunteers are bringing together victims and offenders to bring closure for the victim when they decide they want this
- Mental Health Advocacy Service supports victims of crime who may struggle to navigate the Criminal Justice process
- VCAS (Victim Care and Advice Service) is a bespoke service for the Durham and Cleveland areas, which refers victims to services which can give them the support they need
- My office moved to Police Headquarters in November 2016, improving collaboration with the Constabulary.
- Using technology in ways which enable Officers to spend more time on the beat, and less time in the office. Durham has developed bespoke IT systems and has been successful in selling them to other Forces.

"Inefficient processes that create unnecessary internal demands are continually challenged; and the Constabulary has been able to show examples of this resulting in significant and minimal gains."

HMIC inspection of Durham Police Efficiency, 2016



I am continuing to campaign for changes which will improve community safety and reduce crime

I am very active at national level, working with Government to enhance community safety in our area, and where I think it is necessary, challenging them to make decisions in the public interest.

I have led campaigns to reform drug policy, for example, as I believe that the current policy does not work. I am looking to implement Government policy to introduce new forms of treatment for heroin users, whilst challenging the policy which aims to criminalise low-level users of cannabis. I am hosting an international event in Durham in July 2017 to raise this campaign's

profile further.

I am campaigning with the other North East PCCs to reduce drink-drive limits, and calling for minimum unit pricing for alcohol. I have also called for harsher sentences for dangerous drivers and those who drive under the influence of drink or drugs.

I am pleased to see that 20mph zones will be introduced outside more schools in County Durham – something which I have called for, for some time.

A key issue for me has been the formula used to calculate Police funding. The Chief Constable and I met the former Policing Minister, Brandon Lewis MP, and made a very strong case for funding in areas like Durham not to be reduced. This campaign will continue into the new Parliament.



Baroness Newlove and PCVC Ron Hogg

Highlights of 2016-17

Accountability

It is important that my work is scrutinised to ensure that I am acting in the best interests of local people. This happens through the Police and Crime Panel, a group of elected Councillors from Durham and Darlington, and two independent members. I report to them several times a year, giving details of the work I have done, and I ask them to comment on my Police and Crime Plan every time I revise it. The Panel also has a remit to approve the Police precept which is collected with Council Tax. I am very grateful for the Panel's work supporting and challenging me over the last twelve months.

An important part of my role is to hold the Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary to account for the delivery of my Police, Crime and Victims' Plan. I do this through monthly meetings of my Executive Board, at which senior

members of the Constabulary report progress against the objectives which I have set for them, on behalf of the public.

We also review crime and incident data to identify any new trends and emerging concerns, and to agree how they might be dealt with. I also hold the force to account on an ongoing basis, and we maintain an open dialogue about emerging issues. Finally, I hold an annual appraisal with the Chief Constable.

Anyone can review the performance of Durham Constabulary by looking at my quarterly performance report, which provides data to illustrate progress against the objectives in my Police, Crime and Victims' Plan. The interactive report is published every quarter on my website, and I endeavour to gain coverage in the local press.

To view the Quarterly Performance reports please visit:

<http://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/Your-Police/Performance/Police-Performance.aspx>



Durham PCVC Ron Hogg with Chief Constable Mike Barton outside of Durham Constabulary HQ

Commissioning Services

In 2016-17 I was allocated £736,524 by the Ministry of Justice to commission services for victims. My role in the commissioning of services for victims gives me a strategic overview. I am able to encourage partnership and collaborative working, the joining up of services, the sharing of resources and the ability clearly to identify gaps in services. I am also able to work with other agencies in the Criminal Justice System to ensure that they are prioritising the needs of victims.

Examples of some of the things I have funded or commissioned include:

- Victim Care and Advice Service from April 2016
- Pre-Sentence restorative justice is available in Durham Crown Court, Newton Aycliffe and Peterlee Magistrates. This opportunity has helped many County Durham victims to find strength and move forward positively with their lives.
- Established a Strategic Victims and Witnesses Group to oversee the development of victims' services across the force area.
- I have made a contribution to the Just for Women Centre in Stanley to support their THREAD project which supports vulnerable women. Support has also been provided to enable the centre to develop a sustainable business model.
- I have funded an intervention programme which delivers an accredited peer support parenting

programme to parent/carers who have been victims of their son/daughter's offending.

- I have funded 'With Youth in Mind' a group for young victims of youth crime and acts as both a mentoring forum and support group for young victims.
- I funded the development of training and resources to assist professionals working with victims of young offenders.
- It is very important to support vulnerable victims and help them understand and navigate the criminal justice process. Therefore I have funded, a Mental Health Advocacy Service, a Hate Crime Advocacy Service, Independent Sexual Violence Advocates and Independent Domestic Abuse Advocacy service in Court.
- I have funded research into the role of the voluntary sector in supporting victims of domestic abuse.
- I have established a Domestic Abuse Scrutiny Panel to allow us to improve our services for victims by continually evaluating and improving our practices.

I continue to support work to protect our communities from cybercrime, fraud, and scam prevention. We work with 'Get Safe Online' who deliver Community Awareness Training including events for the business community and general public.





PCVC Ron Hogg, Ruth Ashton and Mel Metcalf from Durham Pride, and Barbara Gubbins from the County Durham Community Foundation

I am keen to act on local peoples' behalf to ensure that the services commissioned by all partner organisations reflect the content of my Police, Crime and Victims' Plan wherever possible. I work closely with professionals in the Health Services, the local Councils, voluntary sector bodies and the Police, so that we have a joined-up approach. We develop service specifications together, and decide which organisations are best placed to deliver the services which we are commissioning. I am in a position to review the success of those services and to challenge those organisations which commissioned them.

I was delighted to make my Community Safety Fund available again this year. I have been able to continue my partnership with local grant-making charity County Durham Community Foundation (CDCF) for a second year. I contribute £100,000 to the Community Safety Fund and a further £50,000 comes from CDCF through match funding. The fund was available to voluntary and community sector bodies, who are able to offer innovative solutions to help fulfil the objectives in my Police Crime and Victims' Plan.

Examples of projects funded include:

- Beat the scammers – cybercrime awareness for older people
- Silver cybercrime awareness project
- Youth activities, diversion activities, Youth café, Mobile cinema project
- Diversion activities for those recovering from drug addiction
- Be safe be confident network for disabled people
- Rainbow project – network for the LGBT Community
- Domestic Abuse network in East Durham
- Anti-social behaviour diversion
- Support for those living destructive or chaotic lives
- Education pack aimed at tackling the harm caused by alcohol and drugs.

Resources

It is my responsibility to secure an efficient and effective police force for the area. This includes setting the budget for Durham Constabulary. The Government only provides around 75% of the funding for the Constabulary, and the rest is raised through a part of Council Tax which is known as the Policing Precept.

This is your money, and we must be careful how we spend it. Durham Constabulary has carried out excellent work to increase value for money and improve its service within tightening budgets. It has improved efficiency and continuously looks at innovative ways to generate income. In 2016 Durham Constabulary retained their 'Outstanding' grading by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) for all three questions of the PEEL Efficiency Inspection. The HMIC said that "Durham Constabulary understands the costs of the provision of police services. It consistently reviews how it can improve efficiency without reducing its service to the public." They added that "Durham Constabulary's plans for the future are well developed and ambitious. They make realistic assumptions based on comprehensive information about the future demand for policing and the resources to meet these."

In the 2015 Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), the Government stated that they will protect the overall policing budget. However the amount of funding coming to local policing from Government is still reducing

year on year. This is because the Government is choosing to allocate additional money to national priorities like counter terrorism, increased firearms capability, and funds to which forces have to bid for a share.

Durham Constabulary are leaders in innovation and this was one of the factors behind the 'outstanding' rating in HMIC's PEEL Efficiency inspection in 2016.

We know that the Government is reviewing the formula used to decide how much money is made available to each force. This formula is likely to take into account a range of issues including population, deprivation and environmental factors. I will be working hard with our local MPs and others to try to secure a positive result for Durham Constabulary.

Police Officers



2011
1,473



2017
1,171

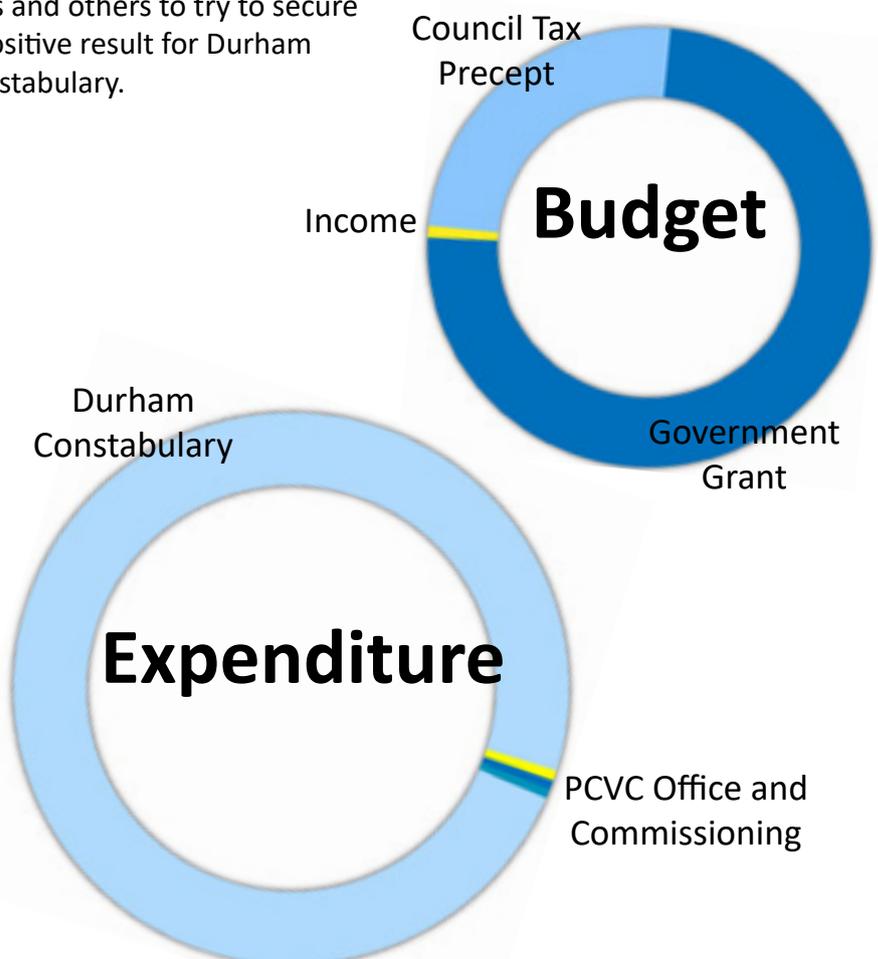
Police Staff



2011
861



2017
946



Budget 2016-17

It costs 61p per person per day for policing

The amount allocated to Durham Constabulary in government grant has fallen by approximately £21.5m from 2010/11 to 2017/18, and is set to fall further by 2021.

Over three quarters of the income available comes from government grant and less than a quarter comes from council tax.

I made an increase of 1.98% to the police element of council tax, known as the Police Precept for 2016-17. This was supported by the public and agreed by the Police and Crime Panel. This generated circa £500,000 in additional income for Durham Constabulary, which equates to the approximate cost of keeping 10 police officers on the street. This equates to an increase of 4p per week or £2.11 per year for a council tax band A property.

The budget available to me for policing in County Durham and Darlington for 2016-17 was £114.7m.

Income	2016-17
Central Government Grant	£ 85,782,000
Council Tax Precept	£ 28,2016,000
Income	£ 736,000
Total Income	£ 114, 724, 000

Expenditure	2016-17
Office of the Durham Police Crime and Victims' Commissioner Costs	£ 852,000
PCVC Commissioning:	
• Community Safety Fund and other grant funded activities	£ 660,000
• Victims	£ 736,000
Total ODPCVC Expenditure	£ 2,248,000
Policing Services under the Chief Constable	£ 112,476,000



Resources

Policing Services under the Chief Constable	2016-17
People	£96,791,000
Premises	£4,072,000
Transport	£2,051,000
Agency Services	£4,227,000
Supplies and Services	£9,376,000
Police and Crime Commissioner's Office	£765,000
Capital Financing	£3,906,000
Revenue Contribution to Capital	£2,802,000
Contribution from reserves	£145,000
Gross expenditure	£124,185,000
Special grants and other income	£10,196,000
Net expenditure	£113,989,000

Full details of the budget and expenditure for the Constabulary and my office can be found at:

<http://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/Information-Hub/Openness/What-We-Spend--How-We-Spend-It.aspx>

People

The Chief Constable and I recognise that the people within Durham Constabulary are the organisation's greatest asset; their knowledge, passion and attitude are the driving force behind what makes Durham unique and different - *the Durham Difference*.

The table on the next page shows the current staffing numbers compared with the levels of from six years ago. There has been a total reduction of over 350 police officers, PCSOs and Special Constables in this time.

Headcount	31/03/11	31/03/12	31/03/13	31/03/14	31/03/15	31/03/16	31/03/17
Police Officers	1,473	1,144	1,392	1,320	1,199	1,144	1,171
PCSOs	175	154	173	154	161	153	145
Special Constables	127	92	76	85	110	92	76
Police Staff	861	928	821	881	913	928	946

Despite these reductions I remain committed to neighbourhood policing and my responsibility to secure an effective and efficient service to the people of County Durham and Darlington. In 2016 we have undertaken successful recruitment campaigns for Police Constables, PCSOs and the Special Constabulary.

90 Police Officers have now been recruited since September 2016.

Looking Ahead 2017-18 & Beyond

The Police, Crime and Victims' Plan which I published last November sets out my vision and aims and objectives for the next four years. I have shown in this report how they are taken forward, and I am pleased that innovative new ways of delivery continue to emerge. Working in partnership with the Constabulary, other service providers and local communities, I will always want to further improve the way we do things, with a real focus on improving outcomes for victims of crime and anti-social behaviour.

Local Criminal Justice Board

It is with victims in mind that Barry Coppinger and I have carried out a wide-ranging review of the Local Criminal Justice Board. The Board contains colleagues from the Police, National Probation Service, Community Rehabilitation Company, HM Court Service, HM Prison Service and Crown Prosecution Service. We are committed to ensuring that these organisations work together as closely as possible, so that victims receive a seamless, high quality experience throughout their journey through the Criminal Justice System, and that people who offend have opportunities for rehabilitation. We will publish our detailed plans later in 2017.

Child Advocacy Centre and Sexual Assault Referral Centre

The PCVC is facilitating partnership activities within Public Health, the Police, and Partners to bring together the activities that support young and adult victims of sexual violence within a single combined environment.

Looking Ahead 2017-18 & Beyond

Advocacy Services

My focus on victims is also leading to the introduction of Advocacy Services aimed at victims of hate crimes, and victims with mental health problems. The services support victims to speak confidently to organisations which many of them will not have encountered before, and to obtain good outcomes as a result. These services will help victims to feel confident to report hate incidents to the Police.

Mental health practitioners

With Health partners, the Constabulary are bringing mental health practitioners into the Police Control Room. Known as Triage, this will provide expert input to Officers who are dealing with people with mental ill health. This will help ensure that their specific needs are appropriately addressed.

Domestic Abuse Scrutiny Panel

The Rape Scrutiny Panel which I introduced in 2015 has been effective at identifying learning for the Constabulary, and I am going to use the lessons from that to influence a new Domestic Abuse Scrutiny Panel this year.

The Panel will be made up of specialists, victims, and members of the public. It will review cases of domestic abuse and offer a challenge to the Constabulary so that they can improve the service provided to victims of domestic abuse.



Crime Prevention

I am increasingly looking to work with partners to make sure we invest in prevention and tackling the root causes of offending. In times of tightening resources, we need to work together to make sure that move resources up stream and stop problems from escalating. As well as being better for the taxpayer, it is better for individuals and reduces the number of victims and harm to society. This is why I am increasingly working with criminal justice partners and local authorities on ensuring the availability of services which help to prevent vulnerable people from committing crime – for example drug and alcohol recovery, housing, routes to employment, and mental health. I am also working with partners to invest in young people. Examples include the Mini Police and Cadets, the Young Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner and his fund, Youth Diversionary schemes funded through the Community Safety Fund, Show Racism the Red Card programme in schools, and support for our two excellent local Youth Offending Services.

Community Safety Fund

My Community Safety Fund has been available to voluntary and community sector bodies, who are able to offer innovative localised solutions to help fulfil the objectives in my Police, Crime and Victims' Plan. I am again working with County Durham Community Foundation to administer the fund, and they have again provided an additional £50,000, taking the total fund to £150,000

Campaigning on behalf of local people

I will continue to campaign on behalf of local people for changes in the law and national policy, that should lead to improvements in our quality of life. I am still keen to see lower drink-drive limits, and I am pressing decision-makers to make further changes to improve road safety.

Community engagement

To ensure that I continue to support the wishes and needs of local people, I will always want to listen to communities and act on their behalf. I will host my annual Celebration of Local Superheroes again this October, at Locomotion in Shildon.

Fairer Funding

I also think that Government should consider further its approach to funding police forces, so that the specific needs of communities in Durham and Darlington can be adequately met.



Drug policy reform

One area which I have highlighted prominently is the need for drug policy reform. The current policies are not working: drug-related crime continues to be too high, and the cost to society enormous. We need to take control of drug supply out of the hands of large organised crime groups, and provide drug users with the confidence to receive support to improve their health and quality of life. Too many, at present, do not do this because they are fearful of being criminalised. I will be hosting a major international conference in Durham this summer to highlight these issues and to garner wider support, including from Government.

Complaints against the Police

New legislation has opened the door for PCCs to have greater oversight of complaints against the Police in the future. I am considering how this might best be taken forward in the Durham Constabulary area.

Key Contacts & Useful Information

Follow us and talk to us on social media. Just search for DurhamPCC on the following sites:



Durham Constabulary Headquarters

Postal address:

Office of the Durham Police, Crime and Victims'
Commissioner
Durham Constabulary HQ
Aykley Heads
Durham
DH1 5TT

Tel: 0191 3752001

Email: general.enquiries@durham.pcc.pnn.gov.uk

Appendices

List of projects I funded from the Community Safety Fund 2017/17:

Projects	Grant awarded
Dawdon Youth and Community Centre	£2,480
Domestic and Sexual Abuse Network (DASAN)	£1,840
Ferryhill L.a.d.d.e.r Centre Ltd.	£2,350
Junction 42	£2,500
Northumbria Coalition against Crime	£2,000
Seaham Have Your Say	£500
Wear & Tees Rural Watch (Farmwatch)	£2,500
City of Sunderland YMCA Ltd	£5,000
Cornforth Partnership	£10,000
Deric Youth Bus Project	£12,000
Durham Alcohol Self Support	£5,000
Durham Christian Partnership	£4,000
East Durham Community Development Trust Ltd	£11,265
Handcrafted Projects	£10,000
Horden Youth & Community Centre	£18,300
Just for Women Centre	£8,000
Open Gate	£10,209
Pelton Community Association	£3,583
SHAID (Single Homeless: Action Initiative Derwentside)	£10,000
Wheatley Hill Community Association	£9,490
WM Morrison Darlington Enterprise Trust	£18,966

Appendices

List of Key Decisions:

Full details of the key decisions I made during 2016/17 are available on my [website](#). Here is a summary in the table below:

Details of Decision	Date
Approval of occupying of office	26.04.16
Licence to occupy ground floor office within Darlington Police Station	01.06.16
Collaborative Secondment of the DCC to the role of Interim CC of South Yorkshire	24.07.16
Mechanical ventilation and air heating colling systems at Peterlee Station	13.06.16
Recovering Justice Budget Proposal	21.08.16
Extension of Community Peer Mentors Project	10.08.16
Appointment of a young PCVC	16.09.16
Extension of Chief Constable's fixed term appointment	29.09.16
To make a contribution to the Safe Durham Partnership Local Government Association Peer review	30.09.16
To make a contribution to the Just for Women Centre in Stanley - £8000 a year in 2016-17 and 2017-18 to support the THREAD project which supports vulnerable women.	31.10.16
To fund Social Enterprise Acumen with a fee of £2100 to support the Just for Women Centre in Stanley to develop a sustainable business model.	31.07.16
To fund County Durham YOS Parent support Group / Intervention Programme (£5,000): CDYOS Parenting Support Group (PSG) delivers an accredited peer support parenting programme to parent/carers who have been victims of their son/daughter's offending.	31.10.16
To fund County Durham YOS With Youth in Mind (£5,000): This group is for young victims of youth crime and acts as both a mentoring forum and support group for young victims.	31.10.16
To fund County Durham Youth Offending Service (CDYOS), Clear Cut Communication: Training & Resource Development (£10,000): to provide a specialist post to undertake training (through liaison with the RJ Co-ordinator for Durham & Darlington) and develop resource for professionals working with victims of young offenders (£10,000).	31.10.16

Details of Decision	Date
To fund Harbour (£13,108) to deliver an Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service in court.	31.10.16
To fund an Independent Sexual Violence Advocate Service (ISVA) and training courses for volunteers (£20,000)	01.09.16
To fund an Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (ISVA) based at the Rape and Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre (RSACC) for two days per week (£14,400)	31.10.16
To fund an advocacy service for victims of crime with mental health needs, to be provided by Advocacy Centre North (£35,000).	31.10.16
To fund an advocacy service for victims of hate crime to be delivered by a partnership comprising of Gay Advice Darlington and Durham (GADD), Show Racism the Red Card and Darlington Association on Disability (DAD) (£45,000).	31.10.16
To consult on the proposed increase to the precept for 2017-18	04.01.17
To fund Social Enterprise Acumen CiC to help three local organisations develop sustainable business models, and to research the role of the voluntary sector in supporting domestic abuse victims (£15,750)	23.01.17
The decision of the Young PCVC to fund two projects one in County Durham and one in Darlington 017-003 Young PCVC Project	27.01.17
To contribute £4000 to the County Durham Children and Young People's Portal	31.01.17
To increase the precept for 2017/18 by 1.98%	01.02.17
Process for the allocation of the PCVC Community Safety Fund 2017 through the County Durham Community Foundation (CDCF)	22.02.17
Procurement of External Audit	23.02.17
Establish a Domestic Abuse Scrutiny Panel	23.02.17
Continuation of Get Safe On-line agreement	24.03.17
Decision to purchase new building for NERSOU	31.03.17

Appendices

Engagement Map:

Throughout the past year I have attended many events across the whole county. Below are some of the key examples of the events I have attended in 2016-17:



LCJB Vision Document:

Delivering an Outstanding Local Criminal Justice System in Durham and Cleveland

This document sets out a statement of intent by the members of the Cleveland and Durham Local Criminal Justice Partnership. It makes clear their vision for criminal justice in the local area, their commitments to working together, and the high-level objectives which they are seeking to achieve.

Vision

County Durham, Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland, and Stockton-On-Tees are areas where people have confidence in a local criminal justice system which supports victims, rehabilitates offenders and reduces reoffending, and delivers value for money.

We will achieve this by taking a collaborative approach so that by 2021 we have an end-to-end local criminal justice system which operates effectively across organisational boundaries to deliver seamless services and positive outcomes for victims and people who offend, alongside effective and efficient delivery of justice.

The local criminal justice system will play a key role in keeping communities safe, supporting positive social outcomes, preventing harm and reducing demand on services, and growing the local economy.

Commitment to working in partnership

To achieve this vision, all signatory agencies are committed to working together in partnership in pursuit of our shared objectives.

We recognise the different roles which we all play in the system, the constraints we face, and our operational independence, but will not be restricted by our organisational boundaries.

We are committed to collaborating for the good of the local system as a whole so that we can best deliver for our local communities.

We will seek to harness opportunities arising from the shared ethos and geographical coherence of our organisations, and from national changes in legislation and policy. We recognise that we are providing services for local communities and that they are best

Appendices

served by a local system which operates as a whole.

We will share the wealth of information which we collect and hold so that we can quickly identify issues and work together to solve them.

We will seek support from other partners who can help achieve our objectives, including local authorities and health services.

And, given that we share the same aims and objectives, we will wherever possible look to work in partnership to commission services which support those aims.

Objectives

An end-to-end service for supporting Victims and Witnesses so that victims:

- Receive the support they need from skilled professionals to cope and recover from the crime they have experienced, including the eight identified areas of need as highlighted in the Victims' Services Commissioning framework; namely mental/physical health; shelter and accommodation; family, friends and children; education, skills and employment; drugs and alcohol; finance and benefits; outlook and attitudes and social interactions
- Are supported to provide their evidence before and during court proceedings, including support with advocacy and navigation through the court process – making full use of technology
- Where appropriate, feel involved in the ongoing sentencing and rehabilitation of offenders as part of their recovery from the experience
- Have seamless end to end care, not being passed from one agency to another unnecessarily and receiving tailored and specialist support based on a robust and well-funded network of services

An end-to-end system for rehabilitating offenders and reducing reoffending so that offenders:

- Have any underlying causes of their offending identified, and are provided with access to specialist services to help to resolve those issues – including drugs, alcohol, relationship and emotional support, and mental health – as early as possible in the system and throughout
- Gain opportunities to improve their skills and employability, and have access to work upon completion (or as part) of their sentence, in order to support them in refraining from further offending and enabling them to contribute to the local economy and community
- Are provided with access to settled and safe accommodation, particularly vulnerable

people who offend

- Receive integrated support from agencies so that the public are kept safe
- Are offered effective rehabilitation as part of any punishment

The most efficient and integrated local criminal justice system in the country so that agencies:

- Provide good value for money to taxpayers and local communities and keep waste to a minimum
- Work together to monitor their own performance and resolutely resolve issues
- Recognise the impact that one service has on another and see solving problems as a shared responsibility
- Harness the opportunities of reforms and freedoms, nationally and locally, to take new and innovative approaches in pursuit of our overall objective



CLEVELAND & DURHAM
CRIMINAL JUSTICE BOARD
Criminal Justice System: working together for the public

