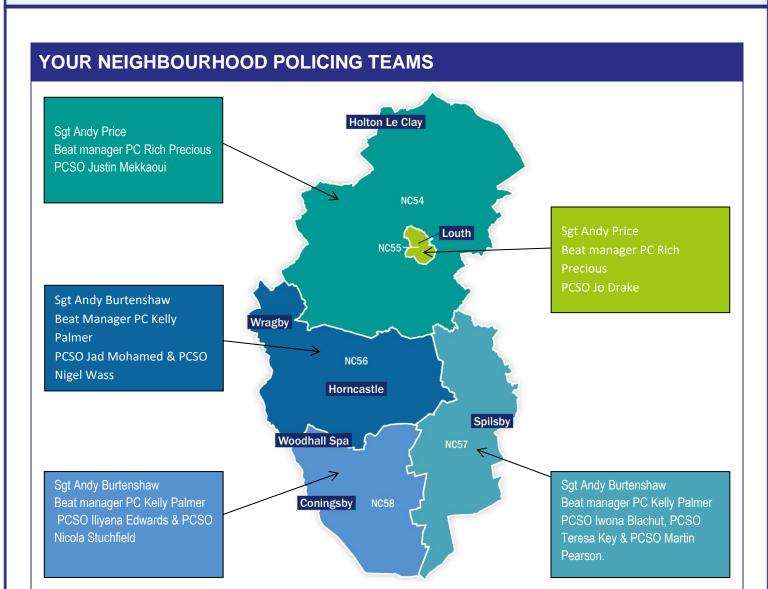


## **WOLDS POLICE**



# **Quarterly Briefing – January 2021**





### INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this quarters briefing.

Over the last 12 months, neighbourhood policing throughout Lincolnshire has been reviewed against the College Of policing and HMIC guidelines. As such some of the ways that we update and engage with our communities has been standardised across the force and designed to ensure we are working in Lincolnshire in line with national guidelines. There is more of a focus on neighbourhoods working in prevention and problem solving to provide our public with better outcomes, with the resources that we have.

We will as part of this restructure be holding quarterly priority setting meetings with our communities and looking to you to find out what you feel you would like your community officers priorities to be. This will enable us



to identify those priorities where we can make a difference to you. As these changes are new to the teams as well, we will be looking in the future to improve communication with you about how we set our priorities and how we seek your views on those.

As can be seen from the demand on our service in Wolds this has been a very busy period with crime accounting for only 25% of calls for service. The last 12 months have been tough for all our communities and reflect in the figures below. The biggest are of demand is the category of "other" will link in with the work around the policing of COVID including our work around Engaging, Explaining, Encouraging and Enforcing of those breaking the rules. If you want to know more about the specific crime statistics in your area these are available at <a href="https://www.police.uk">www.police.uk</a>

I understand that the pandemic has also had impact on calls to us for concern for safety and missing people. These will always be a priority for the force given the risk to life, and the number of calls do not always reflect the time spent by officers dealing with people in crisis, or reflect the time spent on partnership work by your neighbourhood teams to seek to ensure that other agencies and support networks are engaged with helping people when they need it. In addition, the teams are dealing with neighbour disputes and ASB issues locally, working with partners to address these using both civil and criminal powers and legislation. These are often time consuming for the teams and require evidence and an evidential case reaching a threshold where we can proceed. This means that whilst your CBM is building this case, they are busy, but they may not be visible to you with what they are doing.

We also then have to put matters before courts, which also have restrictions due to COVID. Therefore, we very much try and tackle these issues using a stepped approach involving all parties and try to work with people to resolve the issue at the lowest level possible. As you can imagine court process did not always resolve the underlying issues between both parties, so if we can sort out what is causing the issue and make a plan around this then often we can ensure all parties can move forward in a more harmonious way.

It has been more difficult for us to do our usual engagements given the risk of COVID, and we have sought to do more virtual engagements with our community. I would ask that those of you who are more conversant with social media and online technology consider assisting us in these difficult times to get the message out safely about what we are doing. We are doing our best to reach everyone in our community and really appreciate those who support out to do this by providing community information to those who cannot use digital methods.

One of the digital forums that we have been using is Next Door, which is a free app and provides our communities with vital links and connections. Giving us the opportunity to get messages out there to you where they can make a difference. We are still using traditional methods through local councils, community newsletters and media. But it has been more difficult to have those face to face meetings that we all really find of benefit.

One of the most difficult issues that I have certainly noticed is that on some online community forums, people post messages where they or someone they know has been a victim of ASB or a crime. Often

these matters are not reported to the Police and this does make it extremely difficult for us to know what the issues are that are affecting you. We can only ensure that resources are put in the right place if we are told about the things that concern you, we do want to hear from you.

Wolds is a large geographical area as you can see on the map above and is split into North and South Wolds, the North consist of Louth town and rural. South consists of the towns of Wragby, Horncastle, Woodhall Spa, Coningsby, Spilsby and the rural areas.

The priorities are topics that the teams pay extra attention to as part of their day jobs. We will update you around these in this quarterly briefing and I will also seek to update you and obtain views from you in public priority identifying meetings, these will inform our priority setting meetings where we discuss what we can do to make a difference in our community. This is your opportunity to identify what you think we should focus on.

Our first priority setting meeting was held in November and we did seek your feedback on what was off the most concern, using social media to facilitate this.

We then set our priorities around this, using knowledge of what was raised and matters that are reported to us.

The number one problem raised by most who took the time to contact us in every area in East Lindsey was speeding, so we chose this as one of our priorities.

We then looked at what type of offences were reported that gave the most concern to you or caused the most harm and where we could make the most difference. This does not mean that we would not deal with anything not on our priorities, but we would focus on those issues you raised, or that we have identified from the reports to us.

In Summary over the previous quarter from November up until the meeting in January the priorities focused on by both areas were:

Fatal 4 which includes Speeding, Drink Driving, non-seat belt wearing and mobile phone usage.

Scam Awareness (Postal, Doorstep, Telephone, or Internet.)

Seasonal Burglaries, prevention, and awareness.

Unfortunately there are far too many people killed or seriously injured on our roads, we hope that by focussing on this we can reduce this number and seek to engage with people to explain and educate them to make a change to how they drive. We will enforce against those who commit offences, but really, we want people to understand that they can prevent deaths and injuries by making changes in what they do.

Speed enforcement was conducted by the team on South Wolds assisted by Safer Roads teams between Nov and Dec 2020, NPT have stopped 23 drivers, of whom, 5 reported for excess speed and one dealt with for suspected drink driving.

A growing trend, which goes against local council's covid safe efforts to make the footpaths and walkways safe and passible thus helping to maintain greater physical distance between members of the general public, is inconsiderate parking on the footpath, entrances or yellow lined roads. NPT have issued 8 FPN for unnecessary obstruction. Work was also done at the gates of Queen Elizabeth School in Horncastle, due to concerns raised by the school about parking obstructions hampering their stay safe protocols due to COVID.

The Louth NPT team also conducted enforcement and on one day of action alone stopped 14 vehicles, 2 of which were reported for not wearing seat belts and 2 were reported for speeding, with others being given advice around their manner of driving.

Both areas did engagement around seasonal burglaries and scams, due to COVID the majority of these engagements were online or over the telephone.

Far too many of our communities have been subjected to scams often losing thousands of pounds at a time. Every day these scams are reported to us, and it is increasingly easy to fall victim to the scams which become more elaborate and difficult to identify as a scam. Please keep an eye out for friends and family and if you are concerned that they be being scammed please report it. We have had a reduction in the number of burglaries reported over the period, and we are working with the force crime reduction officer Simone Wilson to help find ways of preventing these types of crime from happening in the first place.



Another issue raised to the team came from our rural communities with concern raised about rural crimes and in particular around the annual problem of nighttime deer poaching, which required its own bespoke plan rather than the Op Galileo hare coursing plan. This led to the creation of Operation Actaeon which is a cross border operation with Humberside Police and West Lindsey officers to target the offenders involved in this crime who often come from outside of our county to commit these horrific offences. The individuals involved in this type of offence are also linked with other aspects of rural crime such as burglary and damage to property and leave people frightened in their own homes.

The plan around this recognises the impact that this crime has on our rural community, and that it requires a cross border and partnership approach to effectively address. We are working with our farming community to make Lincolnshire less attractive to poachers and have been conducting joint specialist patrols to address this. We have issued civil prevention notices and where appropriate issued COVID tickets to those who have travelled into our county to commit this crime. We have had a considerable reduction in reports of this nature but recognise that this work will continue annually, and we will prosecute those offenders where we have evidence to do so.

All the policing priorities within Wolds were tackled with a problem-solving plan and are addressed with partnership working. Despite the logistical problems that COVID has created we have continued working with partners. The team regularly attend multi agency meetings (virtually), such as ASBRAC, JDP, MAPPA, CIN, VAP, MARAC to name but a few. These ensure that we are supporting the most vulnerable members of our community and protecting them from harm.

In January our public briefing was held by way of a Facebook live meeting, streamed on the Louth Police Facebook page. This was the first one of its kind in East Lindsey and Jon Challen from ELDC was also there to seek the views from the public and update on the work we are doing. If you did not manage to see this at the time, this is still available to view. I learned a lot from this meeting, and this was viewed over 7.5k times.

We hope to hold the next one on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April, which will be advertised nearer the time and views and ideas will be sought from you before and during the meeting, we want you to be part of how we Police the area you live in and hope to hear from you.

Staffing wise, we have had some challenges over the last 12 months, with Sgt Jacky Barnsley being promoted from the Wolds South team to Inspector in another area. PS Lee Willoughby also changed roles from NPT at Louth. This has meant that we have for most of the year been short of a Sgt on Wolds, and PS Andy Burtenshaw joined the team in May has been covering the whole area. Andy has come from CID and has a really good understanding of building evidential cases against those who commit crime and is keen for the team to be focused on prevention of crime.

We have recently been joined by Sgt Andy Price who will be based at Louth, Andy has come from response having worked on Wolds previously and he has an in-depth knowledge of the area. PC Rich Precious at Louth has also been working to support families in our area who have lost loved ones in road traffic collisions. This is as you can imagine incredibly difficult and challenging work and I know that the families that have been supported by Rich in his role as FLO have really appreciated this. He has seen first-hand the devastation that this causes and really brings home how important it is for our teams to focus on making our roads a safer place. Over the last months PC Rachel Dobson and PC Paula Young have left our team and are greatly missed.

We have since been joined by PC Kelly Palmer CBM part time at Horncastle, Kelly has an extensive background in dealing with domestic abuse cases and is keen to use this knowledge to help safeguard those in our community who are at risk. We have recently appointed PC Dan Green to Horncastle NPT who will hopefully join the team in the not to distant future, he has come from response having previously worked in neighbourhoods in another force area. Our PCSO's across Wolds all do an incredible job in very difficult and challenging times and every one of them is passionate about their role and the area that they Police.

We are also supported by our two volunteer PCSO's Jenny McKie and Ian Porter who very kindly give up their own time to work in our communities, they provide invaluable support and enable us to spend more time dealing with the issues that you are concerned about in your areas.

We all work very closely together as a team across the Wolds and will be supporting each other around tackling issues that affect the whole of the Wolds neighbourhood area.

You will also see that we have a new Chief Constable Chris Haward and we welcome him to Lincolnshire, he is keen to hear from the community about what matters concern you as you are very much part of this vison for Lincolnshire. His force strategy is that he wants us to work together to make Lincolnshire the safest place to live, work and visit.

He details his priorities, which are:

Stopping crime and criminals

Protecting people from harm

Helping those in need.

Your local teams will also be sending out monthly newsletters to your area, which have the team contact details and updates on any forthcoming engagements. Whilst it has been challenging to conduct our usual public engagements as we want to make sure everyone is safe and acting within the COVID guidelines. Your local officers are very much wanting to speak to you so please contact them about any issues with Policing in your community. Be safe in these difficult times we look forward to working with you to fulfil our Chief Constables vision for Lincolnshire.

Signature:	S. Constantine	
Name:	Insp. 1043 Sarah Constantine	
Neighbourhood Inspector for [Area]:		Wolds

#### **OUR PRIORITIES**

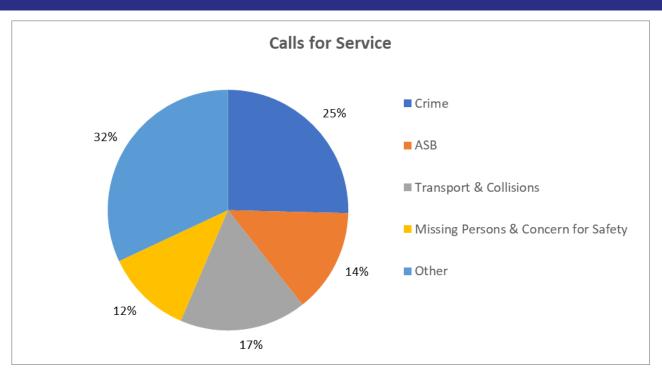
Over the next Quarter our priorities are:

Covid awareness and enforcement (We want our communities to be safe.)

Scam awareness (Postal, doorstep, telephone, or internet).

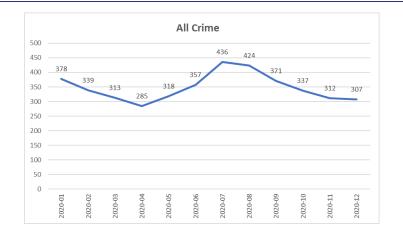
The Fatal 4 – Motoring Offences

# **DEMAND ON OUR SERVICES**

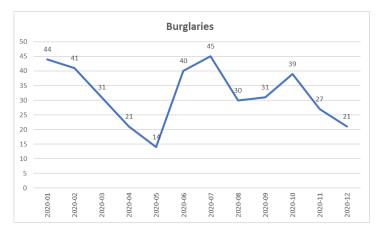


## **CRIME**

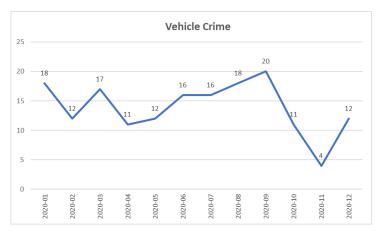
















A range of information and resources are available including online crime recording at **www.lincs.police.uk** 

# **ActionFraud**

National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre

Action Fraud has information about fraud and facilities for recording offences of fraud.

www.actionfraud.police.uk



Crime and other incidents should be reported to Lincolnshire Police on 101



Incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (including noise nuisance and flytipping) can also be reported to East Lindsey District Council on **01507 601111** 



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