



# POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETING

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>TACKLING BURGLARY</b>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<b>POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR DERBYSHIRE</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022</b>

## 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide a report on tackling burglaries in Derbyshire and answer questions received from Police and Crime Panel members

## 2. BACKGROUND

This is a key priority in the Police and Crime Plan. The Commissioner has worked closely with the Chief Constable over the last year on their action plan to tackle burglaries across Derbyshire. Following on from the Community Charter and Neighbourhood Policing Strategy launched by the Force to deliver on The Police and Crime Plan, earlier in the year, the Chief Constable committed that officers would attend

every home burglary reported within the county. This commitment ensures that all residents who are victimised by burglary, irrespective of where they reside, will receive a visit by officers.

During late September, the NPCC made a commitment that all forces across England and Wales would send an officer to investigate all reports of home burglary, irrespective of location or stolen items.

The pledge was made following findings from His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS), who released a report on acquisitive crime and the College of Policing, who have carried out an evidence-based review, setting out how rapid police attendance at scenes can increase victim satisfaction and benefit investigations.

3. **HOW DOES THE PLEDGE AFFECT THE COMMISSIONER'S POLICE AND CRIME PLAN IN GENERAL?**

As Panel Members will be aware, one of the six priorities listed within the Derbyshire Police and Crime Plan is 'Neighbourhood Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour'. Burglary is identified as a specific sub-theme within this priority emphasising the importance of tackling this crime robustly. Through the Commissioner's continued engagement activity across Derby and Derbyshire, residents continue to raise burglary, or the fear of being burgled, as a concern often shared within local communities. The recent pledge from the NPCC aligns with the Commissioner's plan and the recent publicity surrounding this pledge will provide additional reassurance to residents in the county around police action. A commitment has previously been made by the Chief Constable that officers would attend every home burglary which delivers against the Commissioner's neighbourhood crime priority within her plan.

Further information relating to neighbourhood crime, including evidence of delivery against the Commissioner's priority, can be viewed on her website here:

<https://www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk/public-information/public-information-secondary/performance-scrutiny-meeting/>

**4. ARE THERE SUFFICIENT RESOURCES IN DERBYSHIRE TO DELIVER THIS PLEDGE?**

The Commissioner receives updates on a regularly basis. It has been reported to the Commissioner, that there are sufficient resources within the force to meet the demand of attending all home burglary incidents.

Demand data for 2021/22 shows that Derbyshire Constabulary had 2,673 reported offences of 'residential burglary'. The term 'residential burglary' is a Home Office crime recording classification set out in National Crime Recording Standards and includes homes, sheds, garages, and outbuildings within the boundary of the homeowner's land. Approximately 83% of those crimes recorded as 'residential burglaries' are 'home' burglaries, which equates to around six offences per day on average across Derbyshire.

**5. WHAT IS THE FORCE'S CURRENT POLICY?**

The Chief Constable had previously placed home burglary as a top priority based on the Police and Crime Plan, which features Neighbourhood Crime (including home burglary) as one of the key focuses. Considering this, a commitment was already given, prior to the NPCC announcement, by the Chief Constable, that officers would attend every home burglary which occurred in Derbyshire. A significant amount of work has been carried out to maximise the force attendance at incidents to ensure evidence is secured and preserved at the earliest opportunity. Compliance is currently being monitored within the force daily through internal management meetings, with other developments underway to enhance performance management information. Timescales on attendance at home burglaries are determined by a triage assessment carried out at the point of contact using nationally agreed THRIVE criteria (Threat, Harm, Risk, Investigation, Vulnerability and Engagement), with the aim of attending immediate incidents within 10 minutes and priority incidents within 60 minutes. There will be occasions where attendance is outside of these times due to other operational demands and incidents the force may be dealing with at that time.

**6. ANOTHER OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN OBJECTIVES CENTRES AROUND “NEIGHBOURHOOD CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR” AND SPECIFICALLY MENTIONS TARGETED ACTIVITIES AROUND REDUCING BURGLARY AND THEFT. A GENERAL UPDATE ON DELIVERY ACTIONS AROUND THIS AREA.**

The force is currently developing a Neighbourhood Crime Strategy, which will incorporate operational priorities relating to home burglaries, street robbery and other serious or series of thefts. The Safer Neighbourhood Teams will perform an important role with our partner agencies to tackle identified issues through structured problem-solving plans. The strategy will focus on a number of objectives including intelligence, prevention, enforcement and reassurance, in order to reduce offending, improve service delivery to victims, and bring more offenders to justice.

Derbyshire Constabulary are also in the process of implementing planned structural changes to intelligence and investigative functions, which will help to improve the quality and consistency of service, whilst bolstering local capabilities through the creation of dedicated teams to tackle neighbourhood crimes, such as burglary. The increased recruitment of police officers through the Police Uplift Programme is an important enabler to ensure more officers are committed to front-line roles to tackle crimes that are important to victims and local communities.

Following a successful bid to the Home Office’s Safer Streets Fund, The Commissioner has been allocated £401K to reduce neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour in the Ilkeston Town and Cotmanhay village areas of Erewash. This fund is being targeted in this area due to a disproportionate neighbourhood crime problem when compared with many other areas within the county. Funding is being used to purchase Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras and CCTV along with youth diversionary activities and security upgrades to properties within the vicinity. As a package of measures, the aim is to prevent and subsequently reduce home burglaries within the area.

**CONTACT FOR ENQUIRIES**

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