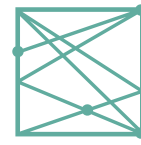


SUSAN DUNGWORTH
NORTHUMBRIA
**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

Annual Report 2024/25





A few words from the PCC

Welcome to the first Annual Report since the launch of my Safer Streets and Stronger Communities Police and Crime Plan earlier this year. This plan was developed with the clear aim of addressing the priorities that matter most to you - the people of Northumbria. The response to our public consultation was overwhelming; with more feedback than any other consultation ran by the office — demonstrating just how engaged and invested both residents our partners are in making Northumberland, and Tyne & Wear safer for everyone.

The past year has been one of action, collaboration, and progress. My thanks go to everyone who has worked tirelessly on a range of brilliant projects and initiatives supporting the safety and well-being of our communities — including my team and all our partners — both at local and national level. I am proud to share just some of the achievements we've made together in this report.

A stand-out success for me has certainly been the launch of Project Shield; a targeted initiative aimed at tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB) and serious violence in key areas of Northumbria. The impact of this work has been significant, and we continue to see positive changes in areas where it has really made a difference.

I'm also particularly proud to have established the Commissioner's Community Fund in the aftermath of the civil unrest in August 2024. This funding pot has invested £150,000 into local projects tackling hate crime and supporting community cohesion. These grassroots initiatives are vital to ensuring that every corner of Northumbria feels included, respected, and safe.



As before, Force finances have remained tight, but my office helped secure £4 million in extra funding from the Government, which has allowed us to continue our fight against serious violence and anti-social behaviour.

As we move forward, I remain committed to continuing the work that will make a real difference to the lives of the people in Northumbria. I want to reduce crime, reduce re-offending, and reduce the number of victims — and in doing so we create feelings of safety, security and belonging.

I hope this report reassures you that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) is listening, we are working hard, and we are committed to delivering safer streets and stronger communities.

Susan Dungworth,
Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner
for Northumbria



Funding your Force

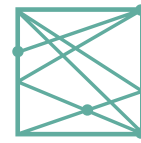
My role, as PCC, is to allocate finances to the Chief Constable to fund policing and support work to deliver my Police and Crime Plan.

For 2024-2025 the force received £378 million to fund crime fighting and public safety. We also secured an extra £1.8m for Northumbria through The Hotspot Action Fund allowing Project Shield to continue as well as a further £2.2m for Northumbria's Violence Reduction Unit, as part of Government's Safer Streets Mission. Although these additional funding pots are welcome, it continues to be a challenge to keep the force appropriately resourced, meet budgetary pressures and allow for some investment due to financial uncertainties.

At the start of the year, the precept decision raised an additional £5.384m of funding for policing in our area, helping us to invest in areas including ASB prevention, tackling fraud and online crimes, targeting offenders and preventing Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), as well as increasing resourcing to help bring offenders to justice. Taxpayers in the Northumbria force area continue to pay considerably less towards policing than those elsewhere in the country. We will continue to work hard to balance the books to ensure our police force is both efficient and effective as we look ahead, as detailed in the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

2024-2025 budget spending:

Policing Services	Resource Allocation
Local Policing	43.2%
Investigations	12.0%
Dealing with the Public	10.7%
Public Protection	9.7%
Criminal Justice Arrangements	7.0%
Intelligence	7.5%
Operational Support	4.7%
Investigative Support	2.6%
Roads Policing	2.1%
Police and Crime Commissioner	0.5%

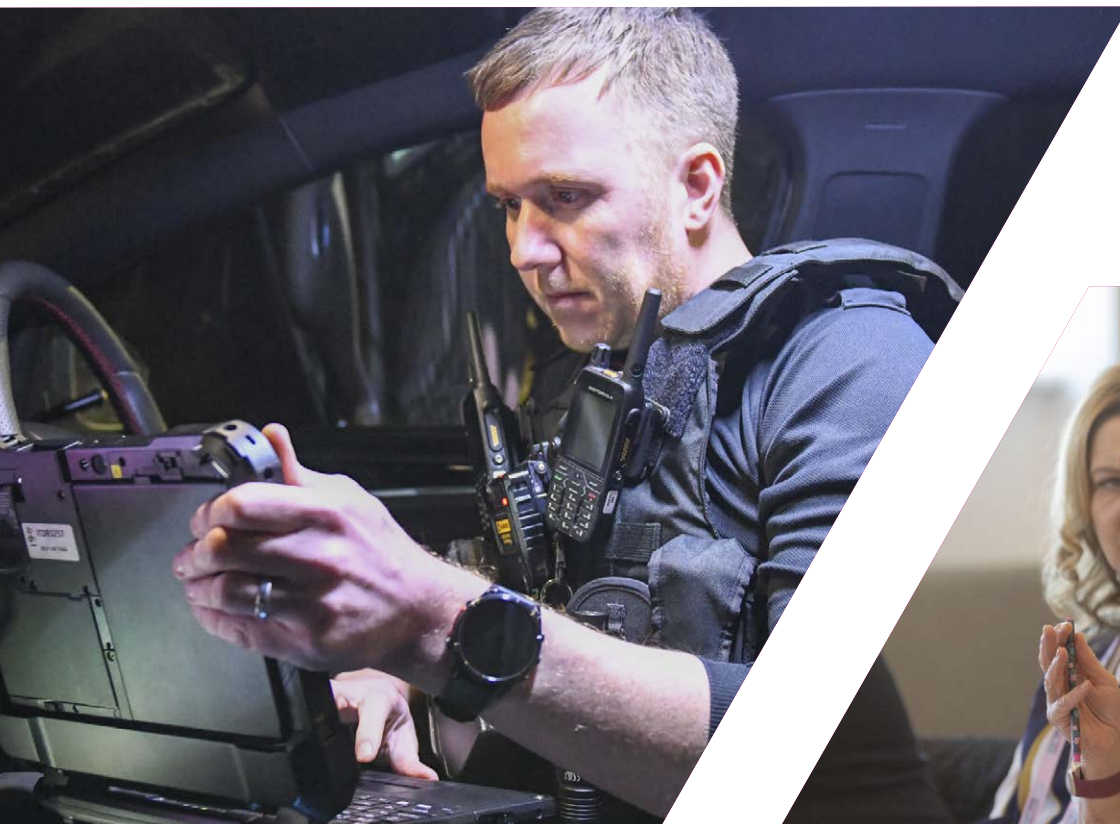


Strategic Policing requirement

As PCC, part of my role is aligning local policing efforts with the national agenda set by the Strategic Policing Requirements (SPR). Locally, we have continued to make sure we are prepared and adequately resourced to work collaboratively to tackle threats to national security and risks that need to be countered by countrywide policing capabilities.

The Home Office set Strategic Policing Requirement sets out current national threats as violence against women and girls (VAWG); terrorism; serious and organised crime (SOC); a national cyber incident; child sexual abuse (CSA); public disorder; and civil emergencies.

As PCC I am responsible for holding the Chief Constable accountable for the force's response to the SPR and ensuring it is effective and proportionate. As part of my scrutiny process I regularly receive reports that outline Northumbria's position in respect of these national threats and I work closely with the Chief Constable to ensure we are using technology and data effectively, ensuring police have the right skills, and working with other organizations to solve problems, and ultimately keep people safe. Where challenges are identified the Chief Constable provides an overview of action to be taken by Northumbria Police to ensure the appropriate response.

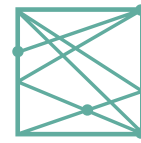


Responding to your priorities

Priority ONE Engaged and Responsive Police Force

- Northumbria Police met the requirements of the National Police Uplift Programme, reaching a headcount of 3,853 officers in April 2025.
- Ran external advisory panels (EAPs) to improve transparency and community relations covering, police powers, custody and women's safety.
- Over 66% of Out of Court Resolutions cases were deemed appropriate and consistent with victim's views considered.
- In 24-25, the handling of 76 police complaints were reviewed by the office.
- Monitored the 999 and 101 response times to ensure the police is delivering a responsive service. The inspection by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) recognised significant improvements in 999 calls answering in the PEEL (Police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy) report.
- Hosted the police at workshops and roundtables, ranging from retail crime to women's safety.
- Received more responses to the precept consultation than any previous consultation ran by the office.
- Helped over 350 cases for residents across Northumbria – from victims seeking justice, to residents reporting issues with policing, anti-social behaviour (ASB), and community safety.





Priority TWO

Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

- The VRUs seasonal violence programme has seen up to 28% reduction in ASB.
- The ASB Case Review Process allowed for 66 victims to have their voice heard, their case reviewed, and their rights upheld.
- In 24-25, Project Shield delivered 31,244 extra patrol hours, reducing ASB incidents by 19.6% in hotspots.
- Almost 400 Immediate Justice referrals, helping deliver over 1,300 hours of reparative activity by perpetrators across the force area.
- Operation Capio – 21 multi-agency days of motorcycle-ASB action with arrests, seizures, summons.
- Supported innovative tactics such as rural crime volunteers to help clampdown on countryside crime.
- Joined the Northumbria Road Safety Partnership working on strategic interventions to make the region's roads safer.
- Supported the government to ensure its Safer Streets Mission applies to all communities, no matter where people live.
- Through advisory panels, provided feedback on body worn footage to help improve future responses.

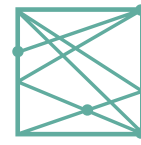


Priority THREE

Serious Violence and Organised Crime

- The VRU helped towards an almost 6% reduction in serious violence in Northumbria, a decrease of 1,385 offences (2024).
- 11,008 young people received knife crime awareness, with 431 knife crime awareness sessions delivered by the VRU.
- 34,350 individuals received training and awareness via the VRU's education team, including the newly developed violence prevention ambassadors.
- Continued to engage with young people through our student support champions, focused deterrence programmes, and the trainee detective scheme.
- Launched our first Northumbria-wide anti-slavery network.
- Regularly met with North East Regional Organised Crime Unit (NEROCU) partners to keep updated on Plan priorities. Successes this year included 151 large scale drug-related disruptions, and a 44% increase in disrupting cyber-crime activity.





Priority FOUR

Violence Against Women and Girls

- 555 people are now trained active bystanders, helping protect women's safety in public places.
- The It All Adds Up campaign received 152 downloads, with recipients from formal and informal education settings.
- A total of £2,523,625 was spent in the 2024-25 financial year on VAWG victim services, helping 8,722 victims of VAWG.
- Rolled out the Raneem's Law Pilot to build on existing OPCC funded work to implement domestic abuse specialists in police control rooms.
- The OPCC funded Operation Salus, delivering an extra 25 deployments across Newcastle and Sunderland's nighttime economies (NTEs). 350 women were supported, 13 threats identified, and 150 interventions made.
- Sunderland's nighttime economies (NTEs). 350 women were supported, 13 threats identified, and 150 interventions made.
- £391,234 of VAWG funding was dedicated to supporting children who have experienced domestic abuse through one-to-one, group, and parental support.
- £647,728 of Home Office funding targeted VAWG perpetrators at risk of causing serious harm.
- Alongside partners, launched the Northumbria Stalking Interventions Partnership (NSIP) in response to the growing need for effective intervention in stalking cases.

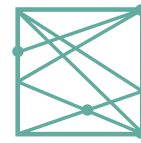


Priority FIVE

Hate Crime and Community Cohesion

- Commissioned Connected Voice to provide support to over 90 victims of hate-related crime.
- Supported Northumbria Police's Hate Crime Champions Scheme, with 730 new hate crime champions recruited around the region.
- Conducted a widespread consultation to inform and update our equality, diversity and inclusion objectives and expected outcomes.
- Funded anti-racism organisations to deliver workshops to over 7,000 school children.
- The Commissioner's Community Fund provided £150k to over 40 grass root organisations to help build community cohesion after recent civil disorder.





Priority SIX Victims and Justice

- Funded Northumbria Victim and Witness Service in 24-25, a hub that supported a total of 21,699 victims.
- A total of £4,127,706 was spent on specialist victim's services in 24-25, with 38 organisations across Northumbria.
- Joint funded a virtual reality headset resource to train magistrates to provide a realistic insight into how harm caused by domestic abuse may impact survivors in family court proceedings.
- Met with prison officials and Nepacs who support those impacted by the CJS, discussing support systems and prevention of re-offending.
- Chair of the Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB), a partnership working to reduce crime and increase justice.



Holding to account

- My regular scrutiny programme allows me to hold the Chief Constable to account, with 5 scrutiny meetings held across the year.
- Utilised insights from EAPs to help shape improvements to service delivery.
- Collaborated with regional partners through NEROCU to ensure Northumbria Police are responding to serious violence and organised crime.
- Chaired LCJB to support an effective and efficient criminal justice system in our area.

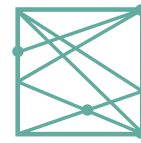
Listening to you

- Held a public consultation to inform and set the goals for the next year with the Chief Constable.
- Ensured transparency with the public by publishing performance data quarterly.
- Regularly met with communities across the region to stand up for Northumbria on local and national issues.
- Supported hundreds of residents in responding to their crime and policing concerns.

Working with partners

- Hosted 8 walkabouts with partners, including the police, public sector and community groups.
- Work closely with the Police and Crime Panel and welcome their scrutiny.
- Collaborated with fire, ambulance, and health to understand and respond to causes of crime.



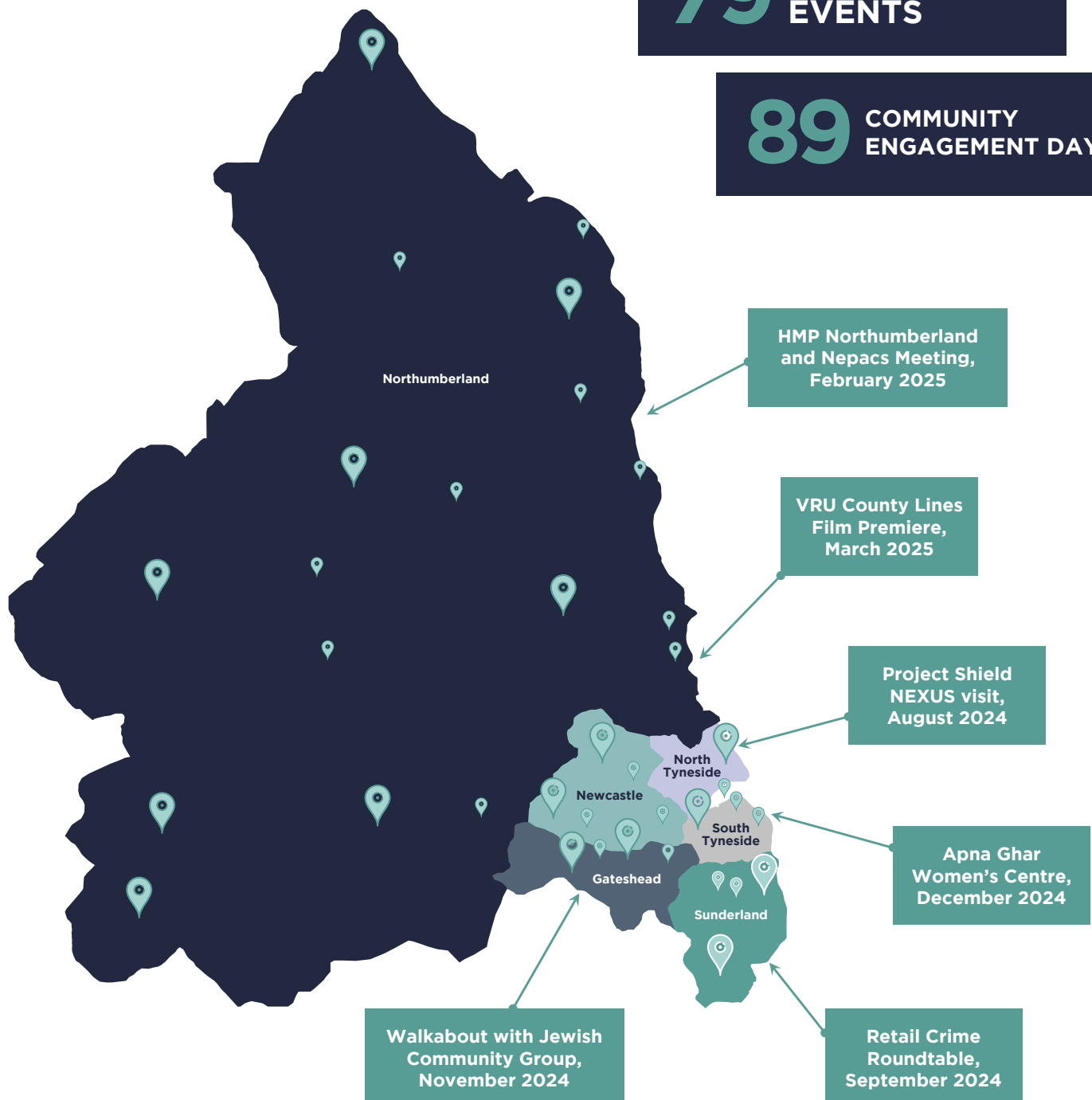


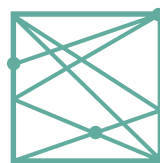
Delivering for everybody

158 VISITS

79 PARTNERSHIP
EVENTS

89 COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT DAYS





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