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NORTHUMBRIA  
**POLICE & CRIME  
COMMISSIONER**

# Delivery of The Police & Crime Plan:

**Priority 2: Crime and  
Anti-Social Behaviour**

November 2025

**Police and Crime Plan commitment: Respond to ASB as a priority and work with partners to prevent ASB in your community to make sure you feel safe and supported.**

**Question 6**

As part of the NPG forces were asked to support the 'Safer Streets Summer Initiative' SSSI and have increased patrols in town centres and other hotspots based on local demand and intelligence, tackling key local issues such as anti-social behaviour, shop theft and vandalism and giving enhanced visibility and presence that our high streets have been crying out for. What learning will you take forward from this targeted approach for the new Neighbourhood Policing Approach.

- In June 2025, a comprehensive 'Safer Streets Summer Initiative' plan was developed around keeping 17 key locations in town centres and hotspots safe. Monthly partnership returns captured data, insights, and examples of good practice tailored to the unique geography, demographics, and offending patterns of each Local Authority.
- For learning promising practice was shared through internal structures, including the Neighbourhood Delivery Group, Prevention Board, and the ASB Coordination Group with partners.
  - **Focused Deterrence workers** in Sunderland intervening early with individuals on the periphery of the 2024 disorder and within Newcastle's City Safe project, offering bespoke diversionary activities for those involved in serious violence and anti-social behaviour.
  - **Trojan Bus**, part of Project Shield, saw covert officers deployed on public transport to identify offenders. This approach received extensive positive media coverage, had a strong deterrent effect, and reassured the public.
- **Police Education (Pol-Ed)** programme delivered anti-social behaviour learning packages to over 250,000 students across the region.
- **Next-Door social media application** used by Neighbourhood Policing Teams to promote their work, share successes, and build trust within communities.
- **Operation Impact** working with partners and focusing on enforcement, engagement, and reassurance.
- The Initiative highlighted the importance of early and holistic collaboration and planning with key stakeholders such as local authorities and transport providers. The learning will inform the development of the Neighbourhood Policing model, so it is more integrated, responsive and community focused. The insights will also be applied to the winter planning process, helping to build on the progress made and further improve multi-agency coordination whilst reducing siloed operations.

**Police and Crime Plan commitment: Respond to ASB as a priority and work with partners to prevent ASB in your community to make sure you feel safe and supported.**

Tackling ASB and improving the victim experience through a co-ordinated partnership approach is a priority in my plan, so I support the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee (NPG) requirement for local ASB Action Plans. I sought reassurance from the Chief Constable that work to develop Northumbria's ASB Action Plan(s) is underway.

**Question 7**

As part of the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee the government has asked that every force develop an ASB Action Plan addressing the local issues faced in communities and town centres. Can you provide an update on what progress is currently being made towards publication of the plan.

- A strategic NPG lead has been assigned at Chief Superintendent rank who is leading on the development of a force wide ASB action plan through the ASB Coordination Group, a sub-group of the ASB Strategic Board. The co-designed and bespoke ASB Action Plan will reflect the breadth of activity underway across the area, incorporating feedback from the summer activity, principles from existing force plans, and key areas of delivery such as victim satisfaction, training, enforcement, problem solving, offender management, supportive / diversionary services, and business engagement. The development of this plan follows a formal request from the Home Office, with a submission deadline of 31st March 2026. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) is a key stakeholder in the ASB Action Plan development.
- The OPCC is also undertaking a comprehensive victim needs assessment to identify any gaps in service provision for victims of ASB who may not meet the criteria to be able to access current commissioned support services which is strictly for victims of crime. The findings will be used to inform and strengthen the final action plan.
- To further help shape the development of the ASB Action Plan, learning is being gathered from workshops hosted by the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) which provide guidance on the format and content of ASB Action Plans, and share national best practice.

## Police and Crime Plan commitment: Work with public transport providers to tackle ASB and crime on the networks that connect you with your family, friends, and work.

I sought reassurance from the Chief Constable around her understanding of crime and safety on public transport, that the new Niche system will improve data accuracy and that there are partnership plans in place to improve public transport safety.

### Question 8

Is the Chief Constable confident that she understands the extent of offending on public transport and what are your plans with partners to improve feelings of safety on Public Transport. Do the plans for Niche include the ability to record and track crime on public transport.

- The Chief Constable is confident in the Force's understanding of offending on public transport which is based on strong multi-agency collaboration and intelligence-led policing. Current data indicates crime between April and October 2025 has reduced by 7.2% on Metro and 6.2% on Buses.
- Safer Transport Northumbria Partnership - a Chief Inspector chairs fortnightly tasking and coordination meetings (TCG) which brings together key partners including local authorities British Transport Police, transport providers - metro, bus, rail, Neighbourhood Policing Inspectors and the OPCC. Monthly analytical reports identify crime and offender trends across local authority boundaries enabling swift targeted and coordinated interventions, reducing duplication of effort across area commands.
- Project Shield - ensures OPCC funded patrols are deployed across transport hubs where and when they are needed most. Resources are allocated at the Safer Transport Northumbria TCG meeting based on demand, data and intelligence. Currently Project Shield is supporting tailored problem-solving plans and crime prevention measures ahead of the darker nights.
- Dedicated Metro Unit - focusing on safety and infrastructure on the Nexus system, crimes and notable incidents are identified and investigated, with key data and emerging trends used to inform strategic monthly discussions with Nexus and targeted tasking that feeds into the Safer Transport Northumbria TCG. Data and intelligence from Nexus' increased customer service staff, along with over 700 CCTV cameras operating 24/7 across the network also informs the Metro Unit operations and the wider partnership landscape.
- Public Safety campaigns and initiatives - multi-agency work such as the "Trojan Bus" and a forthcoming Snapchat deterrence campaign led by Northumberland Local Authority demonstrates ongoing efforts to improve public confidence and safety. Nexus' 'Report it to Sort it' focuses on the various mechanisms to report ASB, in addition to public messaging around staying safe.
- Data confidence - The current crime management system limits analytical capability, but Niche RMS (due in February 2026) will enhance crime recording and tracking, specifically enabling classification of incidents across multiple transport types that will improve the ability to monitor trends, manage offenders, and support strategic decision-making in partnership with transport stakeholders.

**Police and Crime Plan commitment: Promote safety and awareness around the fatal four - speeding, drink or drug driving, not wearing a seatbelt and using a mobile phone - making people aware of the dangers of these behaviours.**

Winter weather and the festive season can increase the danger on our region's roads, through challenging driving conditions, or dangerous driving. I sought reassurance from the Chief Constable that there are measures in place to keep our roads as safe as they can be over the winter.

**Question 9**

With the approach of the Winter season, what road safety activity is being undertaken with partners and are there any campaigns to address the impact of the fatal four planned for the Christmas period.

- The **Harm Reduction Team** in the Roads Policing Unit coordinates resources to deliver against the Road Safety Strategy with the aim of preventing road related casualties and changing driver behaviour.
- The **Northumbria Road Safety Partnership** was relaunched in December 2024. Police harm reduction activity and Local Authority hotspot data is shared monthly for swift allocation of partnership resources and appropriate problem solving. Procurement is ongoing for digitalisation of static cameras as is data is being used to identify suitable sites.
- **Speeding** is the main cause of collisions nationally. Northumbria Police has a fleet of five camera enforcement vans, deploying seven days a week on a shift pattern that covers critical time periods. Increases in offences captured (over 5000 offences per month) means more staff were recruited to the Fixed Penalty Unit. 52% of captures result in National Driver Offender Training Scheme to improve driving standards and reduce collisions, fatalities and injuries on our roads.
- **Road Safety campaigns** - Northumbria Police have a calendar of operations - with a different focus each month - tyre safety, insurance, vehicle standards; December will be drink and drug driving with a focus on the morning after. Roads Policing Special Constables will be conducting a 'Fatal Four'<sup>1</sup> operation to support harm reduction activity during the festive period.
- **Operation Snap** - a dedicated team assess over 500 in-car footage submissions from members of the public per month, ensuring any offences are dealt with.
- **Northumbria Police Motorcycle Unit** - will run workshops over winter, focussing on education and biker safety. Road safety and education work is planned across schools, working with Newcastle Local Authority around education in schools and a media campaign around serious injuries involving children and e-scooters.
- **DNA Selecta spray** - Op Dragoon are trailing a tactic to deal with anti-social off road/e-bike use in the Sunderland area using DNA Selecta spray that will allow for identification of potential riders post-event. It marks offenders with a uniquely-coded invisible DNA mark that can't be washed off and is only visible under ultra-violet light. A review of the tactic will be completed, with plans to implement across all area commands if successful.

<sup>1</sup> Fatal 4 refers to speeding, driving under the effect of substances (alcohol or drugs), not wearing a seatbelt and mobile device use - National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC).

**Police and Crime Plan commitment: Educate and promote awareness of the dangers of online fraud to reduce the risk of being a victim of this crime.**

Online fraud is a worrying crime, often targeted at the most vulnerable in our communities. I hear from people in the community that when they report a case of fraud to Northumbria Police they are referred to Action Fraud. I sought reassurance from the Chief Constable about how Northumbria Police handle reports of fraud made to them.

**Question 10**

From our complaints process we are hearing that when reports of fraud are made that the response is a referral to action fraud. To enable the PCC to be able to assure communities around a response to fraud From an NP perspective are all reports of online fraud where people are victims of scams referred to action fraud for investigation and is there a different response to more localised fraud.

- Northumbria Police follow national protocols for handling fraud and cybercrime, which are coordinated through Action Fraud, the UK's central reporting centre; Action Fraud does not investigate cases. Given the scale of some scams Action Fraud provide a consistent way for victims to report scams, fraud, and financially motivated cybercrime with reports assessed by the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB). This ensures consistent national crime recording, intelligence development and ensures cases are directed to the correct authority.
- Regardless of whether they happen online or locally all cases of fraud reported to Northumbria Police are referred to Action Fraud. Sometimes local police intervention is required immediately, such as where an offender has been arrested for a fraud offence, a fraud is actively being committed or has just occurred, or a suspect is known and can be located or apprehended. In these cases it may be investigated locally by Northumbria Police, or escalated to the North East Regional Organised Crime Unit (NEROCU) depending on the complexity and severity. In other cases victims are signposted to Action Fraud, but Northumbria Police may still take proactive steps such as securing key evidence or pursuing disruption opportunities through NFIB intelligence channels. Where victim vulnerability is identified Northumbria Police officers will support them to report to Action Fraud and address any safeguarding concerns.
- NFIB evaluates each report for solvability and runs data matching to identify criminals behind the scams and opportunities for disruption. If viable lines of enquiry are identified, the case is passed back to the relevant force further investigation. This process equates to 8% of all referrals and ensures that resources are focused on cases with the highest likelihood of successful outcomes.
- Around 92% of referrals to Action Fraud do not meet the criteria for further investigation, in these cases the National Economic Crime Victim Care Unit (NECVCU) supports the victims offering a consistent national standard of care, helping victims feel safer, recover from the crime, and reduce the risk of repeat victimisation. NECVCU give Northumbria Police weekly data about vulnerable victims, enabling the force to deliver enhanced support through its dedicated Protect and Prevent teams.



**SAFER STREETS  
STRONGER COMMUNITIES**



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