

Sussex Police & Crime Plan 2021/24

Smarter Policing – Safer Sussex



Sussex
Police & Crime
Commissioner



21/24



“For the past three years, Sussex Police has been building its capacity to respond to local neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour issues as well as tackle serious and organised criminality.”

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“The Force has committed to a more visible presence and better engagement in your communities.”

1

Foreword from the Police & Crime Commissioner



As your PCC, I have a statutory duty to publish a Police & Crime Plan, which sets out the strategic direction for policing our county with objectives for how policing services will be delivered in Sussex up to 2024.



For the past three years, Sussex Police has been building its capacity to respond to local neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour issues as well as tackle serious and organised criminality.

The Force has committed to a more visible presence and better engagement in your communities.

The feedback from you, the residents of Sussex, shows that you really appreciate the energy, leadership and focused approach of our Chief Constable and particularly the extra boots on the ground in your neighbourhoods.

I will be closely monitoring the recruitment programme to ensure that the Force is making every effort to attract a more diverse workforce which better reflects the demographics of Sussex.

I would like to thank all the members of the public and partners in Sussex who have helped me develop this Police & Crime Plan to ensure that it accurately reflects the policing, crime and community safety issues important to you and takes account of the extraordinary times we are living through.

I will ensure that your ideas and concerns are addressed within these three priorities:

Public Priority 1 – Strengthen local policing, tackle crime & prevent harm

Public Priority 2 – Relentless disruption of serious and organised crime

Public Priority 3 – Support victims and safeguard the vulnerable

Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) have been out every day since the first lockdown in March 2020, keeping us safe from criminals and from people flouting health guidelines regarding gatherings and travel.

The overwhelming reaction of the public – especially here in Sussex – has been one of gratitude and solid support for police officers, many of whom have been spat at and coughed on and defied by those who think COVID-19 is a hoax.

The pandemic has taught us a lot about the value of community co-operation and made us appreciate those frontline workers, like the police, who went out whilst the rest of us were locked down indoors.

We all recognise that our public services have been challenged but I have been impressed and reassured by the way that Sussex Police has responded to the pandemic and continued to catch criminals, prevent crime and protect victims.

This is a Plan for the next three years but it will be one that acknowledges the changing concerns and priorities of Sussex residents and adapts to the social, economic and environmental pressures ahead too.

None of us want to lose the momentum we have built up so I give you my assurance that, working through the Chief Constable's new Operational Delivery Plan, Sussex Police will continue to progress towards the recruitment targets set whilst delivering a smarter policing service, embracing technology and encouraging innovation and collaboration to ensure an even safer Sussex.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Bourne'.

Katy Bourne OBE
Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

“We will get the basics right, building a visible, proactive service that protects our communities by taking the fight back to the criminal.”



2

Meet the Chief Constable

I feel immensely proud and privileged to lead Sussex Police, a team of committed and highly dedicated officers, staff, specials and volunteers who serve with pride and professionalism.



It is our duty to deliver the public's priorities as set out by the Police and Crime Commissioner in this plan: to strengthen local policing, tackle crime and prevent harm; the relentless disruption of serious and organised crime; and to support victims and safeguard the vulnerable.

As our commitment to you, we will:

- Protect our communities
- Catch criminals
- Deliver an outstanding service to victims, witnesses and the public

To protect our diverse communities, we will continue to actively listen and engage. We will continue to develop and improve the ways in which you can contact us whether by phone, online or in person. Whether you are based in a city, town or village, in person, online or travelling through, we will strive to understand your issues and concerns. Importantly, we will then take proportionate action.

At the core of our policing service is a clear focus on catching criminals - with prevention and deterrence at the heart. By building our enforcement capability and working collaboratively with other forces and agencies, we are better equipped to successfully disrupt and tackle serious and organised crime. By relentlessly pursuing dangerous criminals and dismantling more county lines, we will make Sussex even safer.

Investment in Sussex Police, both through the national police recruitment programme and council tax increases, has strengthened local policing, boosting a number of frontline teams. More officers, PCSOs and volunteers for neighbourhood teams have enabled us to deliver an ever better, more accessible service to communities, preventing crime, safeguarding the most vulnerable and tackling anti-social behaviour.

We will also continue to prioritise preventative approaches that divert people of all ages away from crime with our priority on children and young people.


The nature and complexity of the crimes that we deal with continues to change, which is why we have invested in more specialist posts to tackle online and serious organised crime. We must balance addressing the visible impact of crime such as anti-social behaviour and burglary with tackling the often hidden impact of organised crime or crimes committed behind closed doors, such as domestic abuse, which can lead to great harm and vulnerability.

We will only meet these combined challenges if we continue to build trust and confidence with our communities. We police by consent, and we will continue to focus on providing the most efficient and effective service we can with the resources we have available.

We will get the basics right, building a visible, proactive service that protects our communities by taking the fight back to the criminal. I look forward to working with you to keep Sussex safe.

Jo Shiner

Sussex Police Chief Constable



“The police and crime priorities accurately reflect the policing, crime and community safety issues important to them.”

The Public's Police & Crime Priorities

I have developed this Police & Crime Plan in consultation with members of the public and partners in Sussex to ensure that the police and crime priorities contained within accurately reflect the policing, crime and community safety issues important to them.

I will ensure that these ideas and concerns are addressed within the following three public police and crime priorities for 2021/24, as follows:

3.1

Public Priority 1

Strengthen local policing, tackle crime & prevent harm

3.2

Public Priority 2

Relentless disruption of serious and organised crime

3.3

Public Priority 3

Support victims and safeguard the vulnerable

3.1

Public Priority 1

Measuring Progress Against the Police & Crime Plan

Strengthen local policing, tackle crime & prevent harm

I will work with the Chief Constable to address the following:

Local, visible and accessible policing

- local, visible and accessible policing throughout Sussex.
- problem-solving partnership activity and early intervention to prevent crime.
- proactive policing to catch more criminals, cut crime and improve public safety.
- increase the confidence of victims to report traditionally under-reported crimes to Sussex Police to bring more offenders to justice.
- operational policing that is efficient, effective and responsive to the needs of the public.
- invest in innovation, technology and new ways of working to maximise productivity and efficiency gains for policing.

Anti-social behaviour

- tackle anti-social behaviour to protect communities and prevent anti-social behaviour from being a pathway to more serious crime and harm.
- improve police engagement with the public about the impact of anti-social behaviour.
- ensure effective mediation services are available to prevent conflict from escalating further, decrease community tensions and reduce the demand on Sussex Police.
- work with schools and young people to build confidence in policing and promote positive behaviours.

Burglary

- seek to reduce the number of residential and non-residential burglaries in Sussex, including business premises.
- continue to provide support for victims of burglary, particularly those who are vulnerable, and prevent them being re-targeted.

Rural crime

- maintain a dedicated Rural Crime Team and improve their visible policing presence.
- work with our rural communities to encourage better engagement with the police and a greater confidence to report crimes.
- more effective communication with rural communities through the Sussex and Surrey Association of Local Councils.

Road safety

- reduce anti-social driving behaviour on the roads in Sussex and recognise the impact that this can have on the communities affected.
- tackle the most serious, organised and persistent criminals by targeting the road networks in Sussex.
- encourage communities, road users and partners to play a full and active part in making the roads of Sussex safer, working in partnership with the Sussex Safer Roads Partnership, Operation Crackdown and Community Speed Watch groups to achieve this.

Business and retail crime

- tackle business and retail crime by enabling increased reporting of incidents through technology and smarter police processes.
- ensure a more focused police response to reports of business crime with more specialist officers and staff.
- work with businesses and partners to generate better intelligence leading to positive outcomes and increased business confidence in police.

Hate crime

- encourage and enable victims and witnesses to report hate crime and ensure that offenders are brought to justice.
- continue to jointly fund and work with the pan-Sussex Hate Incident Support Service to provide support to complex, high-risk and vulnerable victims of hate crime through the provision of immediate emotional support, advice and coordination with partner agencies.

- use the Safer Sussex Business Partnership to develop stronger links between Sussex Police and local businesses in order to make Sussex a safer place in which to shop and work.

Partnership activity to reduce crime

- continue to provide a case management system to facilitate real-time information sharing between police and local authority partners.
- work with and support the 12 Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in Sussex to address crime and anti-social behaviour at a district level.
- continue to support **REBOOT** – our successful Early Intervention Youth Programme – to divert young people away from crime and to reduce the risk of them becoming the victim or suspect of future serious violence.

- work with Sussex Police to develop the range of Out of Court Disposal options available in Sussex to divert individuals away from the criminal justice system by considering alternative approaches to prosecution.
- recognise and address any disproportionality that exists within the criminal justice system towards our diverse communities.
- continue to chair, convene and coordinate the activity of local criminal justice agencies through the Sussex Criminal Justice Board (SCJB) to improve access to justice; reduce offending and expand the use of restorative justice across Sussex.
- work with partners to reduce crime and reoffending through Integrated Offender Management, including tackling the acute shortage of accommodation for offenders through the SCJB.





Call handling times and contact

- make it easier for members of the public to contact Sussex Police and continue to improve the 999, 101 and non-voice demand response times and encourage greater online reporting.
- provide frontline officers and PCSOs with efficient and effective technology and data access to enable them to police in their communities.



Police officers, staff, PCSOs and special constables

- continue our local recruitment funded by the police precept.
- to improve workforce diversity to better reflect the demographics of Sussex.
- to ensure Sussex Police meets its equality, diversity and inclusivity obligations and promotes a culture that fully embraces this.
- support Sussex Police to recruit 121 additional police officers as part of Operation Uplift – the Government campaign to recruit 20,000 new police officers in England and Wales over the next three years.
- support increased participation by communities in community safety initiatives through the Special Constabulary, Police Cadets, Independent Custody Visitors and other volunteer roles dedicated to preventing crime and safeguarding the individuals detained in police custody in Sussex.

Public engagement

- continue to participate in #TalkSussex – an extensive public engagement programme – to provide the residents of Sussex with the opportunity to inform local policing and budget decisions and to discuss any issues with me and my office directly.



3.2

Public Priority 2

Measuring Progress Against the Police & Crime Plan

Relentless disruption of serious and organised crime

I will work with the Chief Constable to address the following:

Serious violence & knife crime

- tackle serious violence and knife crime in Sussex.
- seek to understand better the root causes of serious violence in Sussex.
- support and enhance the Sussex Police response to serious violence, as part of Operation Safety.
- co-ordinate the work of the Violence Reduction Unit to reduce the risks to individuals and communities throughout Sussex.
- reinforce the local capacity and national capability of Sussex Police to carry out high-profile disruptions and enforcement activities targeting serious and organised criminals.
- tackle the most serious, organised and persistent criminals who are targeting the road networks in Sussex in order to carry out their criminality.

Drugs & county lines

- tackle and disrupt organised crime groups behind county lines drug gang activity.
- recognise the exploitation of children and young people and continue to identify and safeguard those most at risk.

Homicide

- support all available measures by police and partners to reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured as a result of homicide and serious violence in Sussex.

Modern slavery

- continue to work with law enforcement agencies; local authorities; non-governmental organisations and charities to coordinate the local, regional and national response to modern slavery through the National Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery Network.

Child sexual exploitation & abuse

- work with Sussex Police and other agencies to protect children from criminal exploitation by raising awareness and increasing the reporting of these offences against children.
- ensure that child victims receive the support they need and that offenders are brought to justice.

Fraud and cyber-crime

- identify, understand and tackle emerging fraud crime types.
- work with Action Fraud – the national reporting centre for fraud and cyber-crime in England and Wales – to provide help, support and advice to individuals and businesses who have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cyber-crime.
- ensure that police officers and staff have the capacity, capability, systems and equipment to tackle the volume and complexity of cyber-crime.
- allocate further funding from the Safer in Sussex Community Fund to support local projects across Sussex to tackle crime and improve community safety.

3.3

Public Priority 3

Measuring Progress Against the Police & Crime Plan

Support victims and safeguard the vulnerable

I will work with the Chief Constable to address the following:

Domestic abuse

- help put in place measures that support partners to prevent offending and reduce reoffending, with an emphasis on reducing domestic abuse, serious sexual offences and violent crime.
- continue to work with partners to ensure that Sussex offers quality services for victims of domestic abuse, sexual abuse and our youngest victims of crime to help provide seamless support throughout their journey through the criminal justice system.
- support victims and their families affected by domestic abuse to feel safe and cope and recover from harm, offering targeted help through commissioned services in partnership across the county.
- train and develop frontline professionals to recognise the signs and indicators of domestic abuse, how to respond and where to go to for further assistance.

- support victims of domestic abuse who have also experienced sexual abuse and/or stalking and harassment, ensuring they receive the specialist help, support and advice they need.
- provide independent advice and guidance to protect and support victims identified to be at the most significant risk of harm from domestic abuse perpetrators.
- develop approaches to tackling domestic abuse perpetrators through justice and interventions to change behaviour to reduce repeat victimisation.
- continue to invest in Body Worn Video technology to ensure that all frontline police officers and PCSOs are equipped with personal-issue cameras to capture evidence that can be used to improve the successful outcomes in domestic abuse cases and ensure that more perpetrators are brought to justice. This includes victimless prosecutions where the victim does not want to support a prosecution.

Rape & serious sexual offences

- continue to invest in specialist support services to assist victims and survivors with their recoveries from rape, sexual violence and exploitation by co-commissioning a Pan-Sussex service accessible to all.
- encourage victims of rape and serious sexual assaults – both recent and non-current – to report these to the police or through other partners to ensure that all vulnerable victims can be supported, and more offenders are brought to justice.
- work with partner agencies to highlight the impact of rape, sexual violence and exploitation and how frontline professionals can support disclosures and seek further guidance and support.
- support the re-commissioning of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre for Sussex in partnership with National Health Service (NHS) England, including a thorough needs assessment and adherence to new forensic regulations.

Stalking and harassment

- continue to embed Sussex Police processes and procedures to ensure that stalking and harassment is identified and managed effectively to reduce harm.
- work with partner agencies to raise awareness of the dangers and harm of stalking and harassment by improving the identification of these offences and the support available for victims. If it is fixated, obsessive, unwanted and repeated then it is stalking.
- commission specialist advocacy services for victims of stalking and harassment in Sussex, ensuring these are accessible to all.
- develop partnership responses to tackling stalking perpetrators.

Elder abuse

- work with Sussex Police to tackle the financial; physical; psychological and sexual abuse of older people. Elder abuse can be a single, or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust which causes harm or distress to an older person.

- continue to support and raise awareness of Operation Signature – the nationally adopted Sussex Police campaign to identify and support vulnerable victims of fraud – to recognise victims of all types of fraud as victims of crime and to provide preventative measures to support and protect them from further targeting.

Quality victim support services

- directly commission and work with statutory partners to maximise the use of public funds in order to provide support to as many victims as possible.
- develop the Safe:Space Sussex Funding Network of ‘approved’ providers of specialist support services to ensure that they continue to demonstrate the highest levels of quality standards and assurance required.
- continue to provide and promote Safe:Space Sussex – the online directory of victim support services throughout Sussex.
- commission services either as stand-alone or in partnership to provide the best possible response to the most vulnerable victims of crime.

- identify which services work best for victims of crime in Sussex and why, through improved outcome monitoring and close partnership working with other agencies. This information will be used to help design future services, ensuring the voice of the victim is placed at the centre of funding and service decisions.
- continue to provide successful outcomes for victims of crime seeking restitution by confronting perpetrators and describing the impact of the crime upon them and their families – rather than from a criminal justice outcome – through the Sussex Restorative Justice Partnership.

Safeguard the vulnerable

- implement a Victim Hub approach to supporting vulnerable victims in Sussex, ensuring victims receive the right support and safety advice and guidance by the most appropriate service.
- ensure that victims and witnesses are supported to facilitate a positive experience of the criminal justice system.
- work with partner agencies to identify repeat vulnerable victims to safeguard against further harm.

- seek to reduce the risk of vulnerable victims and witnesses travelling long distances to give evidence at court.
- support children and young people attending court – either as victims of crime or witnesses to it – through the Young Witness Service and other dedicated services for children.

Improve access to justice

- ensure that the Sussex Police estate is in the right place, is fit for purpose and is efficient through the delivery of the Estates Strategy 2018/23.
- examine options for sharing with partners and disposal for redevelopment where the police estate is under-used.
- seek to secure additional funding from district and borough councils across Sussex through Section 106 Agreements and the Community Infrastructure Levy to support further investment and improvements in the Sussex Police estate and existing policing infrastructure.

4

Measuring the Progress Against the Public's Police & Crime Priorities

The means by which the performance of the Chief Constable will be measured in terms of providing policing that is efficient, effective and responsive to the needs of members of the public in Sussex is as follows:

Each of the public's police and crime priorities has a series of descriptions of the work that will be drawn upon to measure success and progress.

Evidence will be gathered from a broad range of police, partner and public information sources to determine how effectively each of the priorities are being delivered. This will include the Sussex Police Performance Dashboard, my own internal analysts, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Service (HMICFRS) reports, Government reports, partnership information, internal and external audit reports and public surveys.

I will continue to use publicly webcast monthly Performance & Accountability Meetings to hold the Chief Constable to account for

the performance of Sussex Police and the delivery of this Plan.

I have also established policies, processes, systems and people to meet the requirements, support the decisions and ensure that money is spent in accordance with legislation.

Achievements against the Police & Crime Plan will be formally reported to the Police & Crime Panel through a published Annual Report.

The Plan will be kept under constant review and will be refreshed annually, particularly in respect of the policing budget and precept and to take account of any major changes to national policy and the impact of events, such as the pandemic.



5

Relationship of the Police & Crime Plan to Local Authority Community Safety Plans



Police & Crime Plan

Sets out the strategic police and crime priorities for how policing services will be delivered in Sussex across 2021/24.



Brighton & Hove City Council

Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy 2021/24

[Brighton & Hove Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy 2020-2023.pdf](#)



East Sussex County Council

East Sussex Safer Communities Partnerships' Business Plan – 2020/23

[East Sussex Safer Communities Business Plan 2020_.pdf](#)



West Sussex County Council

The Safer West Sussex Partnership – County Community Safety Agreement 2021/24

[West Sussex Community Safety Agreement 2017-20.pdf](#)



Community Safety Plans for Community Safety Partnerships

Sets out how partners will support the priorities of the Police & Crime Plan. These plans can be viewed on the individual websites for each of the local authorities.

6

Strategic Policing Requirement and National Policing Strategies

The Home Secretary has identified six national threats which all police force areas in England and Wales must demonstrate that they have the plans and capability to respond to, in addition to regular policing requirements.

Strategic Policing Requirement

The Home Secretary has identified six national threats which all police force areas in England and Wales must demonstrate that they have the plans and capability to respond to, in addition to regular policing requirements.

This is called the [Strategic Policing Requirement](#) (SPR) and these threats are identified as:

- public disorder
- civil emergencies
- serious and organised crime
- terrorism
- national cyber security incidents
- child sexual abuse

The threats have been assessed and selected from the National Security Risk Assessment on the basis that they either affect multiple police force areas or may require action from multiple forces, resulting in a national response.

The policing requirement to counter the threats is set out in the SPR and forces are required to evidence preparedness against five areas: capacity; contribution; capability; consistency and connectivity.

The Chief Constable and I must have “due regard” to the SPR and ensure that the police force is in a state of readiness to respond to them, in addition to business as usual.

I must also ensure that sufficient funds are set aside to maintain the Force’s contribution under the SPR. This includes ensuring that sufficient resilience and capacity exists to cover the contribution of Sussex Police.

I will hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of this national element of policing – which the public expects to be of the highest calibre – through an effective accountability framework.

[Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services](#) will also continue to inspect the police force’s capacity and capability to respond to each of the individual requirements.



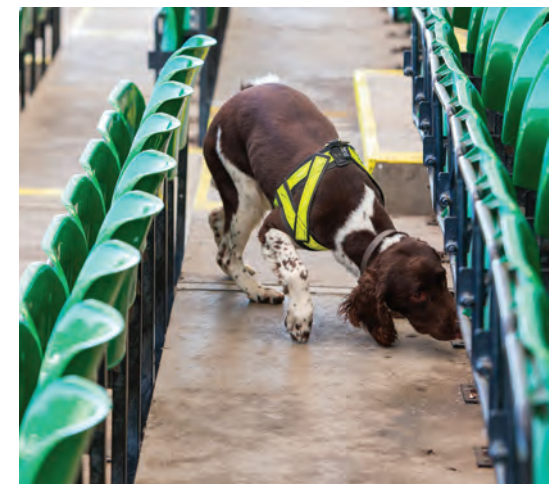
Policing Vision 2025

[The Policing Vision 2025](#) sets out the future for policing and will shape decisions about how police force areas use their resources to keep people safe. The Vision has been developed by the [National Police Chiefs' Council](#) and [Association of Police and Crime Commissioners](#), in consultation with [The College of Policing](#), [National Crime Agency](#), staff associations and other policing and community partners. All Chief Constables and Police & Crime Commissioners in England and Wales have signed up to the Vision.

National Policing Digital Strategy 2020/30

[The National Policing Digital Strategy 2020/30](#) sets out the ambition for how digital can transform key dimensions of the police service alongside the priorities that support this. This includes key data and technology enablers that will provide the foundation for digital transformation, with implications on our people, ethics and policing capabilities, and considerations for how policing mobilises and organises effectively to deliver the strategy over the next five years.

“I will hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of this national element of policing – which the public expects to be of the highest calibre – through an effective accountability framework.”



7

Collaboration



Sussex Police and Surrey Police

Sussex Police and Surrey Police have successfully collaborated on a number of areas since 2010, comprising operational disciplines and enabling portfolios.

Collaborated Operational Commands include the following service areas: Tactical Firearms Unit; Gatwick Operations; Dog Unit; Public Order; Road Policing Unit; Specialist Crash Investigation; Firearms Licensing; Duties and Emergency and Operations Planning.

The operating model for Specialist Crime Command includes a collaborative approach to Homicide and Major Crime Investigations, Serious and Organised Crime, Intelligence, Forensic Investigations (including Digital Forensics), Surveillance, Cyber Crime and Economic Crime.

The key portfolios from an organisational enabling perspective are: People Services, Information Technology, Finance and Business Services (which includes Estates, Fleet, Procurement and Insurance).

The Chief Officers responsible for IT, Finance and People Services work across both police force areas to

identify and deliver further efficiencies and savings. This collaborative approach will help to enhance frontline policing by reducing duplication, streamlining management and rationalising processes and support services.

Sussex Police and Surrey Police are embarking on the implementation of a collaborated capability between both police force areas. This will be supported by the integration of an improved Digital Evidence Management System that will enable the forces to receive and share the video captured more efficiently, effectively and securely, removing the need for portable digital media.



Emergency Services Collaboration

The Policing and Crime Act 2017 places a statutory duty on police, fire and ambulance services to work together.

I will actively seek opportunities to collaborate with other emergency services across our region where it is in the best interests of Sussex residents to do so.



Sussex Police and the South East Region

Sussex Police is one of five police force areas in the South East region. The other four forces are: Hampshire, Kent, Surrey & Thames Valley.

South East Regional Organised Crime Unit

The South East Regional Organised Crime Unit (SEROCU) has responsibility to protect communities in the South East from serious organised crime.

The aim of the unit is to create and deliver a cohesive regional response to serious organised crime with enhanced interoperability and resilience across the regions.

SEROCU is also closely aligned to the current South East Counter Terrorism Unit.

South East Counter Terrorism Unit

The South East Counter Terrorism Unit (SECTU) is part of the national Counter Terrorism Network leading the police response to international terrorism and domestic extremism.

The overarching aim of the unit is to create a coordinated regional response to terrorism, providing specialist support and expertise in counter terrorism to police forces in the South East region and to support the national counter terrorism network when required.

SECTU addresses the four elements (protect; prepare; prevent and pursue) of **CONTEST** – the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy.

South East Regional Integration Partnership

In 2018, Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire and Thames Valley Police formed the South East Regional Integration Partnership (SERIP) to identify and deliver business, process and technical change across the four police force areas.

SERIP is now heavily involved in helping to deliver the PRONTO system across the four police force areas in the South East region, enabling police officers to search crime records across the region whilst out on patrol in a far more efficient and effective manner.

It is also key to helping transform and enhance existing forensic capabilities through the use of technology (Transforming Forensics) and is responsible for the collaborated regional approach to replace the national radio systems used by the four forces through the Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme (ESMCP).

8

Policing Budget and Precept

Budget

I have approved a gross budget of £375.595m for 2021/22. After specific grants and income, the net revenue budget is £328.985m.

Here is how the money will be spent:

- Of the net revenue budget £314.747m is delegated to the Chief Constable to fund the operational delivery budget. Of the remaining balance, £4.449m is held by me to fund the office budget, audit and governance, treasury costs, community safety, victim services and the REBOOT programme.
- My office budget has increased up to £1.449m to meet the budget pressures arising from pay and price increases including pay awards, increased costs of complying with the requirements of the Policing and Crime Act 2017 and additional audit costs.
- Although funding for Community Safety Partnerships comes from a grant, the 2021/22 budget will remain at £1.215m – the same level it was in 2012/13. This funding has now been protected for 9 consecutive years. A further £9.789m is also set aside to meet

capital and treasury management, provision for the repayment of debt and to provide a contribution to reserves for any additional COVID-19 demands and pressures.

Precept

Sussex had the 7th lowest Band D council tax in England and Wales in 2020/21.

This has been such an incredibly challenging year and I have not disregarded or underestimated the economic hardship that some find themselves in at this time. However, it is vital to ensure that our police force, our frontline throughout this pandemic and beyond, is supported and that you continue to receive the best possible policing service.

I proposed a precept increase of £15 (7.5%) for 2021/22. This has increased the precept to £214.91 per household for an average Band D property in Sussex in order to meet the demands on local policing, investigations and the need for even tougher enforcement to reduce criminality through investment in the following areas:

- Continued increase to the policing presence in our towns and villages
- Further investment into the Rural Crime Team and the Road Policing Unit
- More detectives and investigators
- A Public Confidence Team to resolve issues swiftly
- Better use of data and intelligence to identify and catch criminals
- Joint operations with other police force areas (including the Metropolitan Police Service) to tackle drugs and shut down county lines activity
- More officers to manage the highest harm perpetrators
- Expand local investigation and resolution centres to work closely with victims
- A Digital Investigation Programme to improve the capture of online evidence

The precept was supported by and endorsed by the Sussex Police & Crime Panel on 29 January 2021. I formally approved the revenue, capital and precept for 2021/22 on 8 February 2021.





“I have approved a gross budget of £375.595m for 2021/22.
After specific grants and income, the net revenue budget is £328.985m.”

9

Services for Victims & Grant Funding

I am responsible for commissioning services for victims of crime in Sussex. This means determining how best to allocate this funding and overseeing delivery to ensure that individuals in Sussex have access to the best and most appropriate support services available.

My Commissioning Strategy sets out how I intend to continue to develop a strong community of voluntary services and effective partnerships with statutory agencies in Sussex, building their capacity and growing the market to provide services that respond flexibly to meet the needs of local residents. Decisions on the most appropriate mechanism for commissioning services are made after assessing the benefits, restrictions and legal requirements. The methods chosen will be informed by these commissioning commitments and what is right for Sussex, with partnership agreements, grants and contracts used to support this.

Community Safety

I provide an annual community safety grant to support community safety initiatives in Sussex. A proportion of this grant is awarded directly to each of the 12 CSPs in Sussex to deliver youth offending services, drug and alcohol support and targeted activity to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in those areas.

Safer in Sussex Community Fund

For the last 8 years, the remainder of this grant is used for my **Safer in Sussex Community Fund** (SiSCF) and has provided financial support (grant awards up to £5,000) to a diverse range of local organisations and community projects that aim to reduce crime and improve community safety.

In total, £1.66m has been allocated to support 346 community projects since the SiSCF was created. A list of each of the successful applications to the fund can be [viewed here](#).





Victims' Services

From 1 October 2014, Police & Crime Commissioners became responsible for commissioning victims' services locally. To support this, I receive an annual grant from the [Ministry of Justice](#) (MOJ) to commission services for victims and witnesses of crime.

To ensure that victim support services are widely publicised and available to victims of crime, I will continue to promote and develop [SafeSpace Sussex](#) – the online directory of victim support services throughout Sussex. This service is available to all, regardless of whether individuals have reported offences to the police and/or are pursuing these through the criminal justice system.

The MOJ grant also stipulates that the funding should be used to provide quality services to victims. To support this approach, the [SafeSpace Funding Network](#) was created in 2018 to safeguard the quality of services provided by those in receipt of this funding in Sussex. This process requires the recipients

of any grant funding to undergo a quality assurance process which is tiered dependent on the amount of funding applied for, including checks on safeguarding policies, financial management and the quality of the interventions delivered.

The funding provided by the MOJ must be used to commission services that reflect the needs of victims of crime in Sussex, identified through an annual Needs Assessment. Part of this process involves the co-commissioning of services with a range of partners, including local authorities, National Health Service and Clinical Commissioning Groups and National Probation Service. Through the Funding Network, local services are also able to bid for funding to support projects identified as part of the annual assessment.

In total, £976,000 has been allocated to support 52 projects supporting victims of domestic abuse; sexual violence; stalking; hate crime; road crime and fraud since the Funding Network was created. A list of each of the successful applications can be [viewed here](#).

Proceeds of Crime Act

[The Proceeds of Crime Act 2002](#)

provides for the confiscation or civil recovery of the proceeds from crime. Linked to this, the [Asset Recovery Incentivisation Scheme](#) (ARIS) has more than 250 participant agencies seeking to recover these proceeds through confiscation orders which are shared, pro-rata, amongst these participating agencies, including Sussex Police, to tackle and prevent crime.

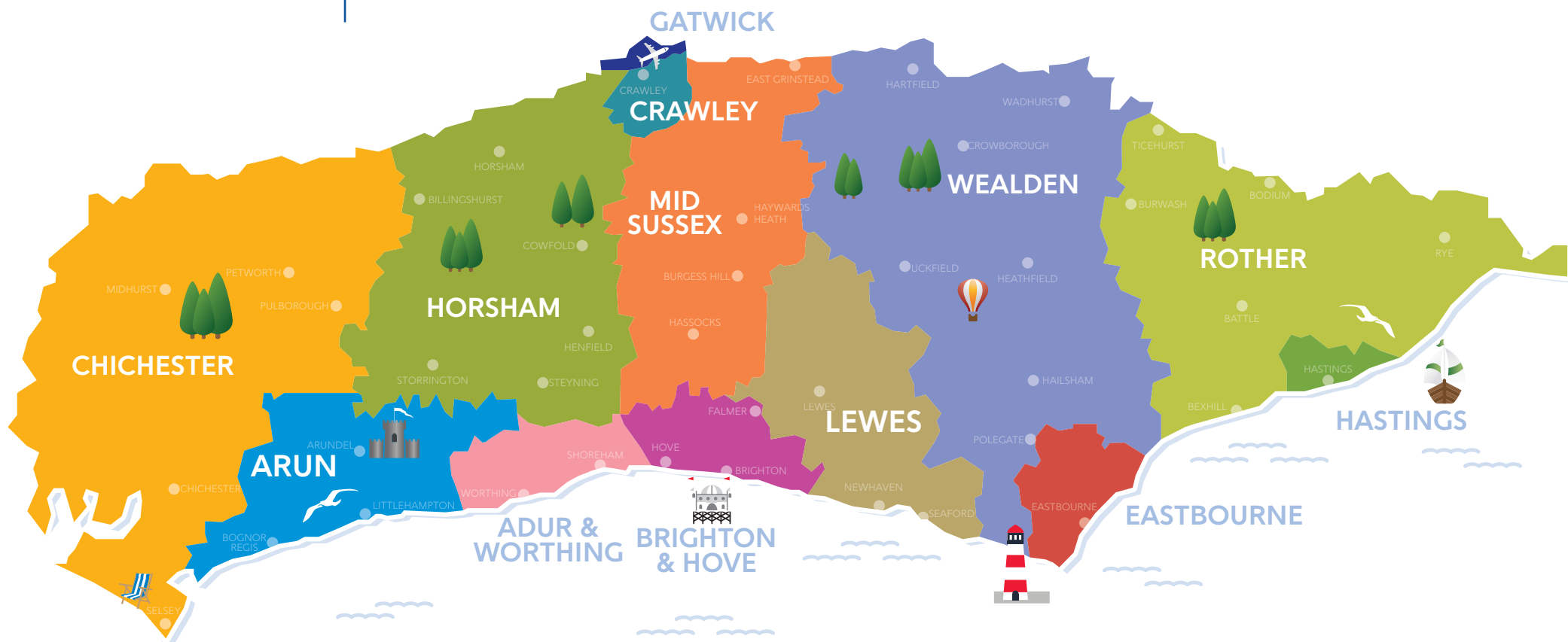
Confiscation and asset recovery are complex processes conducted separately but in parallel to the judicial process. This process explores the defendant's criminal benefit as the value of the property obtained as a result of or in connection with criminal conduct, including the determination of the court as to whether a defendant has a criminal lifestyle. ARIS receipts are forwarded to participating agencies for use in the further prevention or reduction in crime or asset recovery.

About Sussex

Sussex Police covers a population of 1.7 million people. The police force area covers the rural and urban counties of East Sussex (including Brighton & Hove) and West Sussex.

The South Downs National Park covers an area of 628 square miles and stretches for 87 miles from Winchester to Eastbourne through Hampshire, West Sussex and East Sussex and a coastline that spans 137 miles from Chichester Harbour to Camber Sands.

Sussex also has Gatwick Airport – the second busiest airport in the United Kingdom – and the Port of Newhaven – one of the oldest gateways to France.



FORCE AREA

1,460

square miles



WORKFORCE

90% frontline police officers, staff and PCSOs

2.81 per 1,000 population



POPULATION

1.703m People

742,400 Households

1,167 people per square mile



CRIMES

0.075

crimes per person



COST

46p

per person per day



Three external bodies work closely with Sussex Police to set standards and scrutinise performance:

.....
[Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services](#) is the

inspection body which provides regular annual and thematic inspections;

.....
The [College of Policing](#) sets the standard for policing and carries out research;

.....
The [Independent Office for Police Conduct](#) oversees the complaints process nationally.

Source: HMICFRS – Sussex Police Profile

Roles and Responsibilities

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act (2011) established the role of the Police & Crime Commissioner. The Act set provisions for the replacement of police authorities with directly elected Police & Crime Commissioners aiming to improve police accountability by 'reconnecting' the public with policing.

ROLE	RESPONSIBILITIES
POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting the strategic direction for policing in Sussex; • Publishing a Police & Crime Plan; • Setting the budget and precept for policing in Sussex; • Commissioning of victims' support services; • Holding the Chief Constable to account for delivering policing that is efficient, effective and responsive to the needs of the public as set out in the Police & Crime Plan; • Appointing, and if necessary, dismissing the Chief Constable of Sussex Police.
CHIEF CONSTABLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping the communities of Sussex safe and secure; • Delivering efficient and effective operational policing which responds to the needs of the public; • Managing resources and expenditure by the police force.
POLICE & CRIME PANEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing, reporting and making recommendations on the Police & Crime Plan and the policing precept; • Scrutinising key strategic decisions and documents (including the Police & Crime Plan); • Making recommendations to the Police & Crime Commissioner on the discharge of her functions; • Holding confirmation hearings for the proposed appointments of Chief Constable, Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer; • Power to suspend the Police & Crime Commissioner if charged with an imprisonable offence or appoint an acting Police & Crime Commissioner where the incumbent is incapacitated, resigns or is disqualified.

GENERAL

The PCC is elected every four years and is the chair of the corporation sole. Further statutory duties and powers are set out within the Act.

The Act protects the operational independence of the police by making it clear that the Chief Constable retains direction and control of all officers and staff.

Scrutinise the decisions of the Police & Crime Commissioner.

Membership consists of a maximum of 18 councillors from each of the 15 local authorities within Sussex, plus two independent members.

There is a requirement for political and geographical balance amongst the elected members of the Panel.

COMPLAINTS

Local oversight of the complaint handling by Sussex Police; Independent Review Body for certain complaints made through the formal complaints system within Sussex Police and dealing with complaints made against the Chief Constable.

Consider and investigate any complaints or conduct matters against police officers and staff.

Consider any complaints or conduct matters against the Police & Crime Commissioner.



Anti-social behaviour – Personal, nuisance and environmental are all types of anti-social behaviour. This can include abandoned vehicles; nuisance or inappropriate use of vehicles; rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour; rowdy or nuisance neighbours; illegal waste dumping, fly-tipping and polluting watercourses and land, littering or drugs paraphernalia; animal problems; trespassing; nuisance calls; street drinking; prostitution-related activity; nuisance noise; begging and misuse of fireworks.

Child sexual exploitation – is a type of sexual abuse. When a child or young person is exploited they are given things – gifts; drugs; money; status and affection – in exchange for performing sexual activities. Children and young people are often tricked into believing that they are in a loving and consensual relationship – this is known as grooming. The child or young person may also trust their abuser and not understand that they are even being abused.

Female Genital Mutilation – is a procedure where the female genitals are deliberately cut, injured or changed without any medical reason for this to be done.

Forced marriage – is where one or both people do not or cannot consent to the marriage, and pressure or abuse is used to force them into marriage.

Fraud – is a criminal deception committed by a person who acts in a false, dishonest and/or deceitful manner and can be committed against individuals or businesses. There are many different types of fraud. Further information about each of these can be viewed on the [Action Fraud website](#).

Hate crime – when a hate incident becomes a criminal offence it is known as a hate crime. Any criminal offence can be a hate crime if it was carried out because of hostility or prejudice based on one of these five personal characteristics: disability; race; religion; transgender identity and/or sexual orientation. Anyone can be a victim of a hate crime and a victim does not have to be a member of the group at which the hostility is targeted. A hate crime can also be committed against property, as well as a person.

Hate incident – includes anything that a victim or anyone else considers was motivated by hostility or prejudice based on one of these five personal characteristics: disability; race; religion; transgender identity and/or sexual orientation.

Honour-based violence – is a crime or incident which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or community.

Modern slavery – is the severe exploitation of other people for personal or commercial gain, including: forced sexual exploitation; domestic slavery or forced labour on farms, construction, shops, bars, nail bars, car washes or manufacturing.

Rural crime – includes agricultural; equine; wildlife and heritage crime. This can include theft of equipment or fuel; damage to property; unauthorised encampments; livestock worrying; hare coursing; poaching and interfering with protected species; lead theft from churches; damage to ancient monuments and illegal metal detecting.



Get in Touch

Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner
Sackville House
Brooks Close
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2FZ

 @sussexpcc

 @sussexpcc

 www.facebook.com/SussexPCC

Please visit my website and sign up to
my email newsletter: www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk

