

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) – Request for Information. Our ref: FOI0526

I refer to your Freedom of Information request submitted to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside on 27 April 2026 as follows:

Please provide a complete record of all commercial and professional interactions with Lyon PR and/or Rick Lyon (Co-Editor of The Hull Story) since May 2024:

- 1. Confirmation of any payments made for 'media training' or 'communications consultancy' provided to the PCC or OPCC staff.***
- 2. A list of any 'exclusive' or 'sponsored' articles for which the OPCC provided financial support or advertising revenue to The Hull Story.***
- 3. Details of any hospitality, gifts, or travel expenses provided to or received from Rick Lyon or Lyon PR.***
- 4. All correspondence between the OPCC Marketing & Communications team and Lyon PR.***

In response to your request, I can advise that the following information is held by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside: -

1. Confirmation of any payments made for 'media training' or 'communications consultancy' provided to the PCC or OPCC staff.

No information is held. Please note that any payments to suppliers over £500 can be found on our website. If any relevant future payments are made, they will be published here. [OPCC - Financial Information | Corporate Information](#)

2. A list of any 'exclusive' or 'sponsored' articles for which the OPCC provided financial support or advertising revenue to *The Hull Story*.

Information is attached.

3. Details of any hospitality, gifts, or travel expenses provided to or received from Rick Lyon or Lyon PR.

No information is held. Please note that all hospitality, gifts, or travel expenses can be found on our website. If any relevant future payments are made, they will be published here. [OPCC - Financial Information | Corporate Information](#)

4. All correspondence between the OPCC Marketing & Communications team and Lyon PR.

After careful review, we are withholding this information you requested, under Section 40(2) of the Act. This section exempts personal data from disclosure if releasing it would contravene any of the data protection principles set out in the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018.

In this case, the information you have requested relates to identifiable individuals other than yourself. Disclosure would be unfair and unlawful, as those individuals would not reasonably expect their personal data to be made public in this context. As Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption, we are not required to consider the public interest test.

Yours sincerely

Paula Cotton
Statutory Operations Officer
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside

Right of Review

If you think that we have not supplied information in accordance with our Publication Scheme or under general rights of access then you have the right to ask for an internal review. Any request for an internal review should be made within 40 days and addressed to:

Data Protection Officer
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside The Lawns Harland Way
Cottingham
HU16 5SN

E-mail: pcc@humberside.pnn.police.uk

We would aim to complete an internal review within 20 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of an internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.



AMBITION

COMPASSION

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INTEGRITY & TRUST

Paula Cotton

Statutory Operations Officer
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Email: pcc@humberside.pnn.police.uk

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Your Police and Crime Commissioner

– Jonathan Evison

I'M PLEASED to bring you the latest update from my office on the work we are doing to improve community safety in Hull.

Across the summer I ran my annual online survey to get your views on crime, antisocial behaviour and the services offered to victims of crime. The survey closed in October and I received 1,500 responses. If you took part, I thank you for taking the time to provide your feedback.

The top four issues that residents wanted the police and other agencies to do more to tackle were:

- Drug use and dealing
- Misuse of motorcycles and scooters (on and off road)
- Speeding and reckless or dangerous driving on the roads
- Burglary

Around 40 per cent of respondents had been a victim of some sort of crime or antisocial behaviour in the past 12 months. My survey takes an interest in whether they reported the crime and if so, how happy they were with the response they received.

Always report

Of those who had been a victim, 30 per cent did not report the crime or incident at all. Their reasons for not doing so included that they weren't confident anything would be done, or there would be no chance of catching the perpetrator.

This often comes up in feedback, usually due to experiences in previous years where police resources were much more stretched than they are now.

My advice is always report. The police need to know where the demand is to allocate resources accordingly.

We now have more police officers than at any time in the last decade and one of the highest-performing call centres in the country, so always report any crime, no matter how small.

To take part in future surveys register to receive regular updates at mycommunityalert.co.uk.



Tackling antisocial behaviour

There are very few communities that have not experienced antisocial behaviour in some form.

Although not officially classed by the Home Office as a crime, antisocial behaviour can bring inconvenience and misery to many people and often involves groups of young people.

Following feedback from the police's Humber Talking survey, we identified several locations across the force area which needed more specialist intervention projects.

I launched my Community Response Fund earlier this year which included east Hull as one of the target areas, and invited applications from youth engagement projects to receive £10,000 of funding to work with young people and gave the

DOING YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING ONLINE?

THINK BEFORE YOU BUY

STOP, CHALLENGE AND PROTECT



#SAYNOTOFRAUD

WWW.SAYNOTOFRAUD.UK



Be aware and Say No To Fraud

During the winter, incidents of fraud and scams are on the rise, particularly due to the increase in shopping over the Christmas and New Year period.

In recent years, online shopping with home delivery has become as popular, if not more so, than visiting the high street or shopping malls.

If you become a victim of fraud, the impact can be considerable and have a huge impact on your confidence and wellbeing, as well as your financial situation.

Our campaign, Say No To Fraud, features the real stories of local victims of fraud and aims to reduce the number of victims by committing to increase knowledge of the types of fraud and scams, the methods used by the criminals and advice on how to protect yourself and those you love from becoming a victim of these crimes.

Our website is full of information to help you protect yourself. Take five minutes to have a browse and let's beat the fraudsters together. Visit saynotofraud.uk

public the opportunity to vote for their preferred option.

The winning project was Creative Workshops with the Friends of Alderman Kneeshaw Park, which is engaging with young people on the Bilton Grange estate for six months until March.

The project seeks to give the young people from this community a sense of place, connection and pride by running a series of workshops to develop creative skills, participation and teamwork.

Workshops on Monday nights include resident artists helping to develop and co-create a mural along with other art installations giving the young people connection and encouraging pride of place.

It is hoped that, over time, opportunities to gather further ideas for future collaboration will emerge.

This project has been designed to give a voice to the young people who access the park and help to gain an understanding of what they might want from the park.

The final design of the mural would then be painted on the building the Friends of Alderman Kneeshaw operate from. As the young people will be involved in the design of this, it is hoped they will have a sense of pride and ownership of their work.

There will be more projects in the next round of the fund. I will report on that in a future article.



WINNING PROJECT: Young people who use Alderman Kneeshaw Park are being given a say on what they want to see there

Investing in your community

When I launched my Community Safety Fund in the summer of 2022, I wanted to give a helping hand to projects through community organisations and neighbourhood groups who want to make a positive difference to the safety of their community but often find funding hard to come by.

A total of £1.5m has now been granted to more than 80 projects across our region, with funding ranging from £500 to £35,000 covering a wide variety of initiatives such as youth engagement, drug and alcohol recovery, and security measures such as CCTV and fencing.

Recently I have been visiting several funded projects, meeting the people

involved and finding out if improvements have been made through our investment.

The Freedom Community Trust in east Hull was awarded £6,500 for security upgrades at the Freedom Centre in Preston Road.

They work hard to improve the quality of life for people in the area, and community safety is a vital part of that.

With around 40 cameras covering the Freedom Centre and the Preston Road Village Centre, the new HD equipment has already played its part in helping to reduce antisocial behaviour and crime, with several incidents successfully addressed by local policing teams and Hull City Council.

If you are involved with a community group or non-profit organisation and have an idea or project to cut crime, antisocial behaviour or improve safety where you

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A total of £1.5m has now been granted to more than 80 projects across our region

live, visit the community section of my website to find out more.

Each funding round will be advertised on my website and through My Community Alert, so ensure you are registered to receive the latest news.



SECURITY UPGRADES: Jonathan Evison with Julian Rice outside the Freedom Centre in Preston Road, Hull

STAY CONNECTED →

→ To keep in touch with announcements and the latest news by email, sign up to My Community Alert at mycommunityalert.co.uk

→ For more information visit my website humberside-pcc.gov.uk or follow Humberside PCC on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



YOUR POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

JONATHAN EVISON

I'm pleased to bring you the latest update from my office on the work we are doing to improve community safety in Hull.

Thank you to everyone who completed my Annual Police and Crime Plan Survey over the summer. It is really important for me to understand the issues that are affecting our communities so we can use our resources effectively to ensure everyone feels safe, both residents and visitors. We will be publishing the results of the survey in the coming weeks on our website.

From our joint work around the Home Office Safer Streets Summer initiative, to organisations taking advantage of my Community Safety Fund, we've been creating lots of opportunities for some great partnership work over the past few months in and around the city. I'm looking forward to seeing this continue as we move into the winter months, where there will be a number of further initiatives.

Please follow us on social media and subscribe to My Community Alert to be notified of the work we are doing in your area and get involved in making a difference.

HOME OFFICE SAFER STREETS INITIATIVE

In June this year, the Home Office announced a new initiative to prevent crime and antisocial behaviour in town centres and ensure visible, meaningful consequences for those responsible. The focus of the Safer Streets summer town centre initiative is visibility, prevention and enforcement with partnership working encouraged. I have fully supported and promoted this locally, which brings together a range of initiatives that are already in place in and around the city – the impact of working together is bringing in the results already.

The first two months (August and September) have seen the following:



Of course, there have been many other successes, that I will report on further as the initiative continues in the future.

FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS

My Community Safety Fund can provide funding of between £500 and £35,000 towards projects that meet the scheme criteria and are led by voluntary and community sector organisations, or social enterprises.

To date, over £1.86m of funding has been committed through the Community Safety Fund to support projects that impact on crime and community safety at the local level, with further funding being made available to support the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan between 2025/26 and 2028/29. This will see an overall investment of £3.35m by the end of the plan period.

The deadline for applications is 03 November 2025 at 12:00 noon.

If you want to know more information about the Community Safety Fund, please visit www.humberside-pcc.gov.uk/funding/grant-funding/community-safety-fund



TACKLING ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND VANDALISM IN DERRINGHAM WARD

Along with my Deputy, I recently met with Councillor Grozav to discuss how we can work together to tackle antisocial behaviour (ASB) and vandalism in the area, by creating safe spaces for youths and the potential for installing CCTV cameras in hotspot areas.

Councillor Grozav said *"I recently showed Jonathan and Leo around my ward, Derringham, in Hull. I have been working to reopen community buildings, that have been left unused for many years. They understood that these buildings could be used by community groups as a hub, or focus for activities for families and young people. Community engagement can play a very important role in diverting young people away from more harmful activities and it can give communities a sense of purpose. This is what I want to achieve here!"*

I would encourage everyone to report ASB on every occasion.

If the Police and Council aren't aware of it happening, they cannot work in partnership to tackle it. Humberside Police is recognised as the best performing Force in the country, with the highest number of police officers in over a decade, and I want to reassure you that the resources are available to help tackle issues affecting your community.

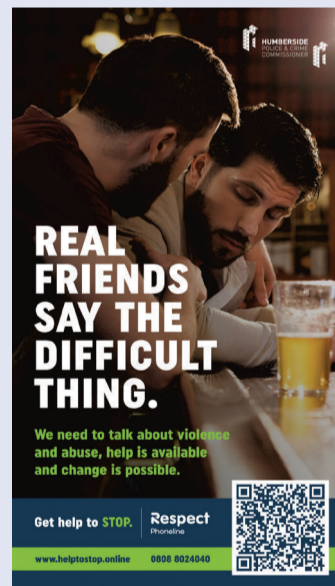


PARTNERSHIP WORKING WITH LOCAL FOOTBALL CLUBS TO TACKLE DOMESTIC ABUSE

We have recently refreshed our ongoing campaign aimed at preventing domestic abuse by partnering with local football clubs. In partnership with Hull City, we are now displaying messages in the stadium, targeted at those who commit domestic abuse and encouraging them to face up to their actions, whilst also providing routes to support those affected by abusive behaviour. In addition to this, our messaging also includes encouragement for the public to be active bystanders and call out any inappropriate behaviours.

We are delighted to be working in collaboration with our local football clubs to raise awareness of domestic abuse and encourage more open conversations about harm within the home. Support services are ready to help those who need to change their harmful behaviours to get help to stop causing harm. Local support is also available for anyone experiencing hurt at home – please always remember that you are not alone, and help is available.

If you need help to stop hurting someone, please visit www.helptostop.online



If you are experiencing hurt at home, services are ready to listen.

Please visit www.youarenotalone.online

We are also working with Scunthorpe United and Grimsby Town on this campaign. There is no place for violence in our communities.



HUMBERSIDE
POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER



HumbersidePCC



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YOUR POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER AND DEPUTY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER JONATHAN EVISON AND LEO HAMMOND



We are currently seeing some of the most significant changes to policing and justice in a generation, and it is important to ask if these national shifts are truly the right fit for our local area. The decision to phase out my office by 2028 is a major part of this. While it is often presented as a way to streamline the system, we are concerned that it actually moves us away from a model where the public has a direct say. Instead of an elected representative who is accountable to you at the ballot box, the new 'policing leads' will be appointed by boards and committees. To us, an appointed official can never represent a community's interests as strongly as someone the public has chosen themselves.

This shift toward centralisation is also visible in the proposal to merge our 43 police forces into much larger regional units. Our own local survey showed that over 80% of you are against these larger boundaries, and we share that hesitation. When policing becomes regional, there is a natural tendency for resources to gravitate toward large cities. We worry that our coastal and rural areas, from Hornsea and Market Weighton, to villages like Ulceby or Dugthorpe, might struggle to get their fair share of officers and investment if the leadership is based in a distant regional headquarters.

Financially, the 'savings' of removing my office are also debatable. While it cuts election costs, it risks losing the dedicated team that brings in millions of pounds in extra grants for our local services - funding that far outweighs the office's running costs. Policing in this country has always relied on the consent and lead of the public. As we move through these next two years, our focus remains on ensuring that our local voice isn't lost in a larger, more distant system. We will do everything we can to make sure that 'local' stays at the heart of policing, no matter what the new structure looks like.

SAFER STREETS WINTER OF ACTION

Following on from the previous Home Office summer initiative, our office has worked with Humberside Police and the Community Safety Partnerships on coordination of the Winter of Action campaign. The campaign focused on 13 defined areas across the region between 1 December - 31 January 2026 experiencing the highest levels of harm and demand. Enforcement, partnership and prevention activity was aligned to the national focus on retail crime, ASB and street crime, safety in the nighttime economy and violence against women and girls. These areas included Hull City Centre, Beverley Road/Spring Bank/Princes Avenue, Kingswood Leisure Park, Beverley, and Goole.

ACTIVITY INCLUDED:

- Intelligence-led hotspot patrols
- Targeted enforcement and use of available powers
- Licensing and safeguarding activity within the nighttime economy
- Youth engagement and diversionary interventions
- Substance misuse and health-based partnership responses
- Community reassurance and environmental improvements



POL-ED

My Office has purchased Pol-Ed educational resources. The resources are now available completely free of charge to all schools and organisations working with children and young people across the Humber region. Created by West Yorkshire Police and subject matter experts, Pol-Ed is an educational programme that teaches young people about risks, citizenship and the law.

Jonathan Evison, Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside said "Pol-Ed gives teachers and youth workers the tools to help young people make positive, informed choices by deepening their understanding of the law and building resilience".

For more information, please visit <https://www.pol-ed.co.uk/>

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN SURVEY

The survey had over 4,000 responses, which was the highest response rate in the past five years. The results can be seen on the diagram.

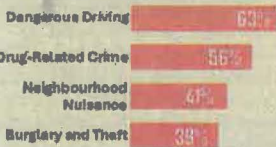
Introduction
A key component of the Police and Crime Plan is ensuring that our communities' voices are heard and are reflected in the plan. In the Police and Crime survey, respondents were asked to provide their thoughts on several key topics.

Perception of Crime and ASB

71% of Respondents Perceived that ASB has gone up across Humberside from last year to this year

55% of Respondents Perceived that Crime has gone up across Humberside from last year to this year

Top Incidents that occur 'Often' or 'Very Often' in local areas were (% that agree):



Experience of Crime

Of the respondents that had personally experienced a crime in the 12 months prior to the survey

44% Reported to Humberside Police

48% Did not report to anyone

Over 60% rated their 999 and 101 calls as 'Good' or 'Very Good'

Main reason for not reporting was lack of confidence anything would happen

Police and Crime Priorities

Respondents' Top 5 Priorities (out of 20 given) for Humberside Police are:



Violence Against Women and Girls was ranked as the 7th highest priority to tackle, in the 2025 survey, which is an increase from rank 13 in the previous year

Confidence in Humberside Police

66% of respondents were either 'Very Confident' or 'Fairly Confident' in Humberside Police

13% points increase from last year

Road Safety and Issues

70% think that roads are safe for car users | **28%** think that roads are safe for cyclists

Top priorities to tackle for improved road safety

- Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Driving without due care and attention
- Speeding in urban areas

Operation Snap, Fixed Speed Camera and Mobile Camera were perceived as having the greatest improvement on road safety.

THE BETTER MAN

Creating a safer world for women and children starts with better men.

The Better Man movement is a catalyst for action, driving awareness and highlighting the power of proactive interventions. Our campaign demonstrates how supporting men to take accountability can help to change the narrative.

Our new campaign harnesses the power of lived experiences to shape a compelling public-facing narrative, inspiring conversations, sparking debate and inspiring men to ask for help.

Find out more at <https://thebetterman.org.uk>



With help and support I was able to be honest and talk about my feelings. I stopped drinking and rebuilt my relationship with the support I got from the men's helpline and through my story.



ReNew, E, Humberside Police, Humberside Fire and Rescue, Humberside NHS Foundation Trust, Humberside Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, Humberside Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, Humberside Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

VOLUNTEERING

Our volunteers are essential to our commitment to transparency, ensuring local policing remains fair, effective, and accountable. By reviewing real cases and data across panels such as Use of Police Powers, Hate Crime, Domestic Abuse/VAWG, and Independent Custody Scrutiny, these 'critical friends' help shape future policies and improve local services.

Our award-winning Independent Custody Visitor (ICV) scheme involves unannounced visits to check on the welfare and rights of detainees.

In 2023, it received Platinum accreditation - the highest national recognition for oversight standards. Additionally, our Animal Welfare Scheme volunteers conduct quarterly visits to police dog kennels; last year, six volunteers performed five visits to check on 17 dogs.

If you want to make a difference, find more information and apply at: www.humberside-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/volunteering



HUMBERSIDE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER



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