

Scrutiny Blog

September 2025



Introduction

Hello everyone, I'm Vincent Leyenda, the Assurance and Volunteer Supervisor here at the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC). Part of my role is helping to co-ordinate our scrutiny panels and independent schemes. These play a vital role in us holding Humberside Police and the Chief Constable to account on behalf of the public.



Police Powers Scrutiny Panel

3 panel members attended our July 2025 Police Powers meet up. The panel was held at Victoria Street Police Station in Grimsby. As a group, the panel scrutinised 5 Stop and Search Records as well as 5 Use of Force records (which related to the custody suites as requested by the members).

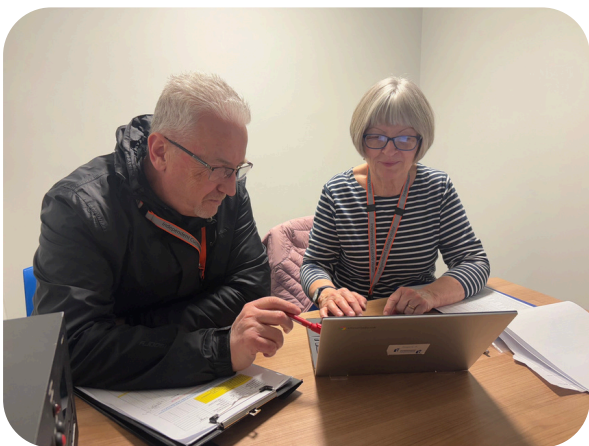


Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel

Our July Hate Crime panel was held at Clough Road Police Station in Hull. 10 panel members were in attendance, including guests from Humber All Nations Alliance and the Humberside Police Independent Advisory Group for Hull. Some key topics were discussed, and the panel scrutinised 5 Hate Crime Reports including samples where we listened to 999 and 101 calls to scrutinise all aspects of Hate Crime recording.

Independent Custody Scrutiny Panel (ICSP)

In July the panel met at The Lawns in Cottingham. The 5 members in attendance looked over 6 reports regarding Strip Searches and viewed the custody CCTV relating to those detainees being booked into custody. Mental Health remained a focus for the panel for this meeting, and 2 full custody records were scrutinised in relation to the mental health care provided to those being detained. Our panel members made some key discoveries, with Humberside Police looking to implement system changes due to these findings. The force will be making changes to the signing out process of detainees. Well done to our members for being part of changes that will benefit our communities.



Independent Custody Visitor Scheme (ICV)

Between June and September our ICVs have conducted 24 visits to our custody suites and interacted with 103 detainees to ensure their needs and rights are met. It is important to remember that those in custody are innocent until proven guilty, and so it is vital they are treated with dignity and respect.

Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls Scrutiny Panel (DA/VAWG)

In June we held our 2nd ever DA & VAWG Scrutiny Panel. 8 members arrived at Melton 2 Police Station, with the day starting with a tour of the Force Control Room (FCR) and an input from the staff there. This tour was at the request of our members so that they could gain a better understand the journey of a 999/101 call into Humberside Police.

The panel then scrutinised samples of real police reports and listened to the corresponding 999 and 101 calls for those crimes.

As a result of our scrutiny, one of the sample cases is being reviewed with the potential of re-investigation. Couldn't be proud enough of that our newest panel is already influencing positive change.

An Interview With Our Police Powers Chair, Jon Webster

We recently sat down with our Chair of the Police Powers Scrutiny Panel, to check in on how he is finding the role.

How have you found your time as the Chair of the Police Powers Scrutiny Panel?

It has been a good mix of both challenging and rewarding. I am lucky to have a great panel, made up of a great mix from our community and all with the same intention, to serve and do our part in helping Humberside Police become the best Police Constabulary in the country. It really is the team itself that make this happen, their open, honest and diligent manner in asking the right questions, seeking out the right answers and using their own expertise and experiences to think up new ways of approaching things.



What do you know now that you didn't know before taking the role on?

Police procedures for one, but more so, the effort that the Constabulary put in to work alongside us, rather than feeling that they are being 'scrutinised' and on the other side of the table.

What is your proudest achievement so far as Chair?

It isn't mine, but I am extremely proud of those who volunteer with me and make up not only our panel, but all the panels and specialist roles we have within the PCC's office.

What are your hopes for the future?

That, as a community, we can all bring about effective and sustainable change for the better and for the benefit of all.

If you could have a superpower, what would it be?

I wouldn't want one, I love seeing others and their own superpowers, for each has one.

Crisps or chocolate?

Can I have another 'C' - coffee!

Finally....

Please contact me via email for more information on our available volunteer roles on pcc@humberside.pnn.police.uk