



west midlands
police and crime
commissioner

ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18



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Foreword by Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson



The last year has been the toughest for West Midlands Police on record. There have been more calls for service, more serious and complex crimes to solve and growing demands due to the squeeze on other services.

The dedication of West Midlands Police officers and staff has been remarkable. In the last financial year, West Midlands Police received nearly 40,000 more 999 calls than the year before. There were over 27,000 more crimes recorded during that period and 3,000 more violent incidents too.

The force has dealt with those challenges after having received cuts of over £145 million since 2010 and with more than 2,000 fewer officers.

The arguments for West Midlands Police needing a better deal are compelling and well understood by the public. We are being asked to do far more with far less. As the service of last resort, we are plugging gaps in other essential services, such as council services for young people and responding to mental health crises. This means we are having to prioritise and focus on the most serious crimes, and are increasingly unable to deliver the service that the public expects for all crimes.

I think the next year will be the most critical yet for West Midlands Police. With government support we can begin to turn the tide. Increased investment, along with the efficiencies and advances I am bringing in could make a real difference.

Investment to give young people the opportunities they need to guide them away from the gangs is underway, new policies to tackle the scourge of drugs that drives much of our crime are being initiated and new technology that will keep officers on the frontline instead of being behind desks filling out paperwork are being rolled-out.

But we need the funding too, so I can give the Chief Constable the resources he needs to provide the number of officers, staff and PCSOs to get the job done. As it stands those initiatives will make a difference, but will be massively outweighed by the huge cuts we have faced and the subsequent lack of police numbers.

I am also deeply worried about the challenges arising from Brexit. European security databases are integral to tackling the most serious crimes, including terrorism. Crime is increasingly international and takes place across borders. UK and EU co-operation and information sharing on dangerous offenders helps protect us. These systems help to catch serious criminals and keep the public safe. They are used against EU nationals and dangerous UK criminals alike. West Midlands Police's access to these systems helps us catch criminals abroad, who are

committing crimes online against local people, including in the fight against online child abuse rings. The use of the European Arrest Warrant, which allows us to bring those who have committed crimes here and fled abroad, back to the UK to face prosecution here could also be in jeopardy. Policing will be less efficient and the quality of co-operation will be lower. This will impact of on our ability to investigate crime and may cost us more. For the sake of public safety these issues need to be satisfactorily resolved over the next few months.

I remain optimistic about the West Midlands in general. We are a vibrant region and a hub of ingenuity. In particular I am looking forward to the Commonwealth Games and Coventry becoming UK City of Culture.

Over the next year our preparations for the Games will intensify and we will be ready for 2022. I am no doubt that the Games will present the biggest security challenge we have ever faced in the region. With the constant threat of terrorism, we will be working night and day to deliver the safest, but friendliest games possible. The Commonwealth Games will be a huge highlight for the region that will leave a lasting legacy. I will ensure that West Midlands Police plays its part.

Coventry will be the UK's City of Culture in 2021 and there will also be a huge amount of work to make sure the police play their part too.

I am particularly proud to have re-introduced Police Cadets for 13 to 17 year olds. I initiated the scheme after numerous young people approached me to get the cadets up and running again. The business case for the scheme was written by one of my former Youth Commissioners when he was just 15. The cadets will make a real difference to the lives of young people and will enhance the force.

I will continue to ensure West Midlands Police does all it can to keep people safe over the next year, by driving efficiencies and continuing to campaign for the funding the force deserves.

David Jamieson
West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner

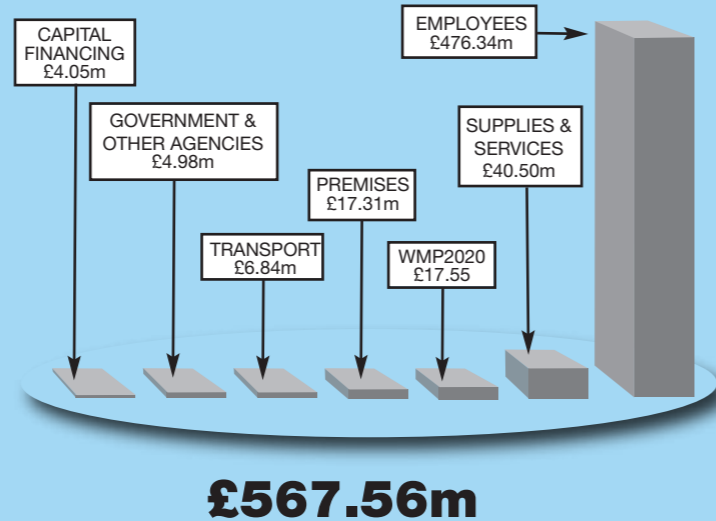


The tables below show how the net budget of the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner (£535.29m) is funded from Central Government, business ratepayers and the precept on council taxpayers. This is compared with the previous year (£525.94m) with the main changes shown separately below.

How the money is spent

Revenue Expenditure Budget 2018-19

	2017-18 £m	2018-19 £m
Employees	466.29	476.34
Premises	17.05	17.31
Transport	7.89	6.84
Supplies & Services	43.85	40.50
Government & Other Expenses	5.41	4.98
Capital financing	3.34	4.05
WMP2020 costs	18.66	17.55
Gross expenditure	562.49	567.56
Income	-26.27	-27.73
Police force net expenditure	536.22	539.83
Victim support expenditure, reducing crime grants and governance	11.22	11.64
Restorative justice & Victim support income	-3.32	-3.33
Total net expenditure	544.12	548.14
Use of reserves	-18.18	-12.85
Net budget requirement	525.94	535.29



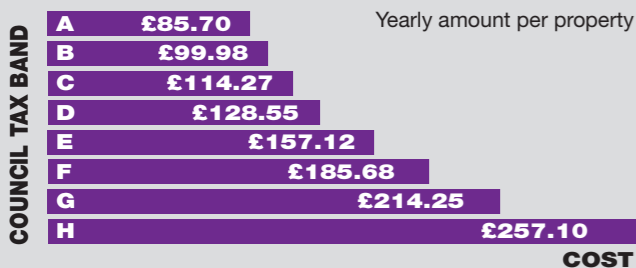
Where the money comes from

How spending has changed

	2017-18 £m	2018-19 £m
Net budget requirement	525.94	535.29
Less:		
Police grant	-247.32	-247.32
Revenue support grant & non domestic rates	-177.75	-177.75
Council tax support grant	-19.03	-19.03
Gross Precept	81.84	91.19
Collection Fund Surplus	-1.52	-0.95
Council tax requirement	80.32	90.24
Resident population	2,833,557	2,864,925

	£m
2017-18 net expenditure	544.1
Add:	
Pay awards and Inflation	16.9
New Recruits	9.2
WMP2020 Project Costs	17.6
Less:	
Police, Staff & PCSO leavers	-20.5
Removal of 2017/18 Project Costs	-18.1
Other Adjustments inc External Funding	-1.0
WMP2020 Project costs	
2018-19 Net Expenditure	548.2

What you will pay for policing in West Midlands in 2018-19



Spend on policing per head of population in 2018-19

Council tax	£31.50
Police grant	£86.33
Revenue support grant & non domestic rates	£62.04
Council tax support grant	£6.64
Equivalent to an average cost per person of	£186.51

Police and Crime Plan

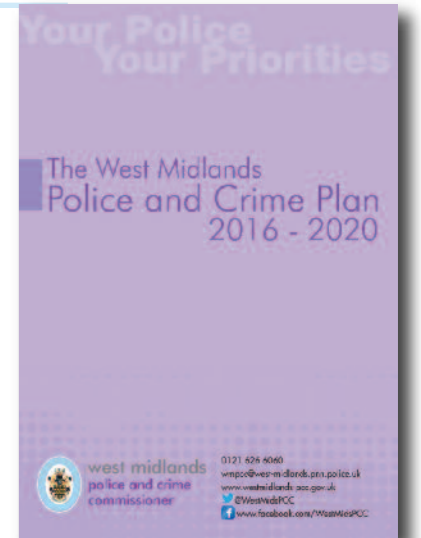
The law requires every Police and Crime Commissioner to have a Police and Crime Plan, detailing the policing to be provided and the Commissioner's police and crime objectives. The PCC's current plan is for 2016 to 2020. This is the second year of the plan.

The plan is split into seven sections covering the major priorities of the Commissioner:

- Protecting from harm
- Supporting victims of crime
- Building trust and confidence in our police
- Strengthening communities and growing the economy
- Building a modern police service
- Standing up for young people
- Tackling national and international threats

The Commissioner will hold the force to account through a series of measures and targets including:

- West Midlands Police to continue to have a lower recorded crime rate compared to other similar forces
- Increased reporting of 'hidden crimes'
- Low levels of reoffending
- Fewer young people entering the criminal justice system
- Reductions in the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads
- Increased confidence in West Midlands Police by 2020
- Reductions in the disparities of confidence in the police across different areas
- Satisfaction of victims of crime and anti-social behaviour to increase by 2020
- Fewer complaints against the police and those that are made should be dealt with quicker
- Reductions in the fear of crime
- Increase in public participation and the development of more active citizens in the West Midlands
- Reductions in burglary and robbery



Any queries regarding this leaflet should be addressed to:

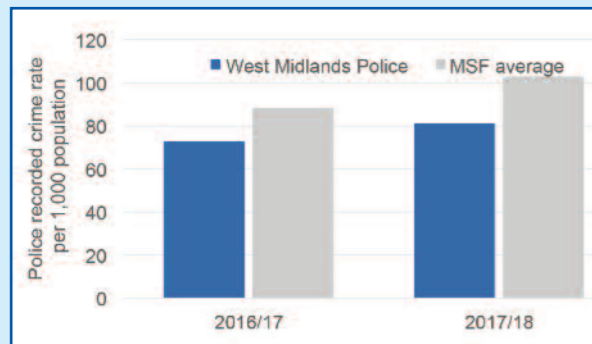
The Chief Finance Officer, West Midlands Office for Policing and Crime, Lloyd House, Colmore Circus Queensway, Birmingham B4 6NQ

Tel: 0121 626 6060

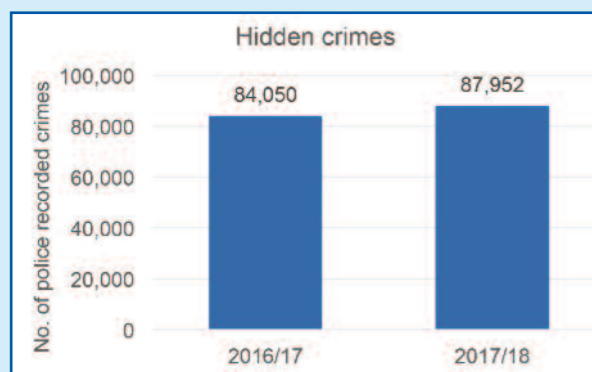
Email: wmpcc@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk
www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk @WestMidsPCC



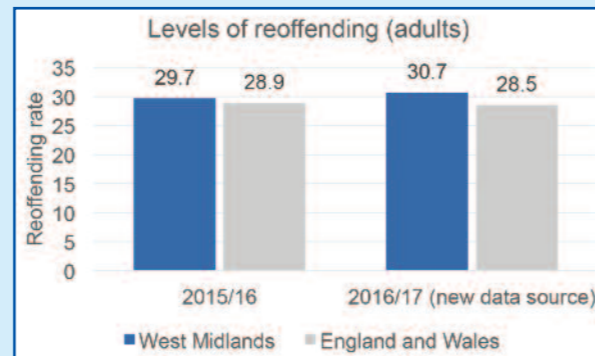
Performance



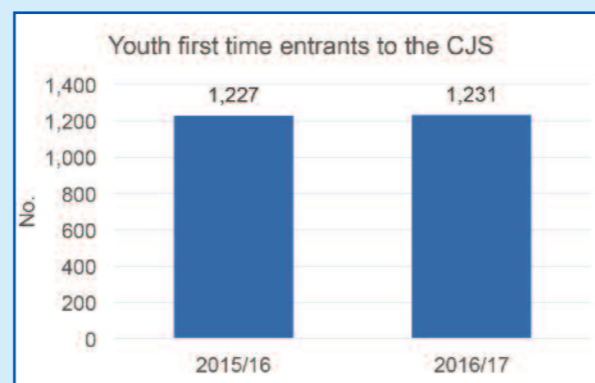
In 2017/18 the total recorded crime rate was 81 crimes per 1,000 population in the West Midlands force area. This was lower than the average for the most similar force group (103 per 1,000 population). For both the West Midlands and for the most similar force group there has been an increase in recent years, from 73 per 1,000 in the West Midlands and 89 per 1,000 in the most similar force group for 2016/17.



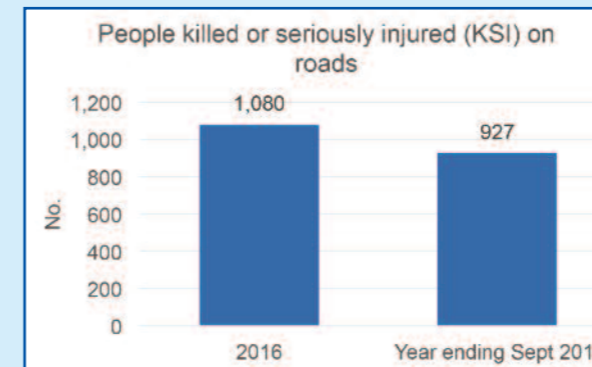
In 2017/18 there were 87,952 hidden crime recorded in the West Midlands, an increase of 5% from 2016/17. 'Hidden crimes' includes domestic abuse, child abuse, child sexual exploitation, vulnerable adult abuse, hate crime and non-crime, FGM, so-called 'honour based' violence, forced marriage, modern slavery and human trafficking. Domestic abuse is the largest contributor to hidden crime accounting for around two thirds of all hidden crimes.



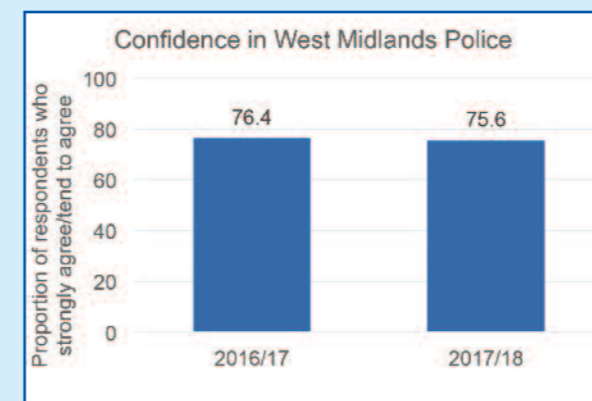
In 2016/17 the reoffending rate for adults was 30.7 in the West Midlands compared to 28.5 in England and Wales. The reoffending rate had risen slightly for the West Midlands from 2015/16 though it is important to note a new data source has been used by the Ministry of Justice for the 2016/17 data.



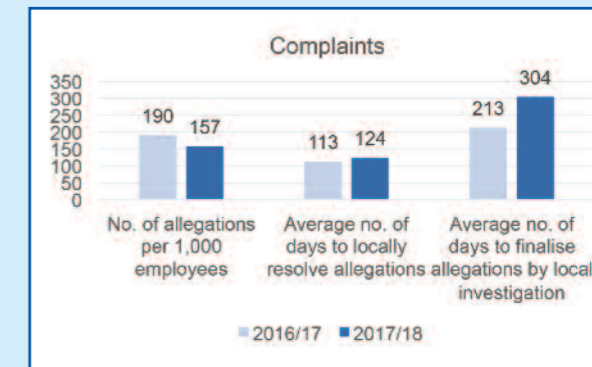
Following recent years of falling numbers of young people entering the criminal justice system for the first time there was a very small increase between 2015/16 and 2016/17 to 1,231 in the West Midlands. The rate of entry per 100,000 young people was 436 compared to 319 for England and Wales.



Department for Transport published data recorded 927 people killed or seriously injured (KSI) on roads in the force area in the 12 months ending September 2017. This was a fall from 1,080 recorded in the 2016 calendar year.



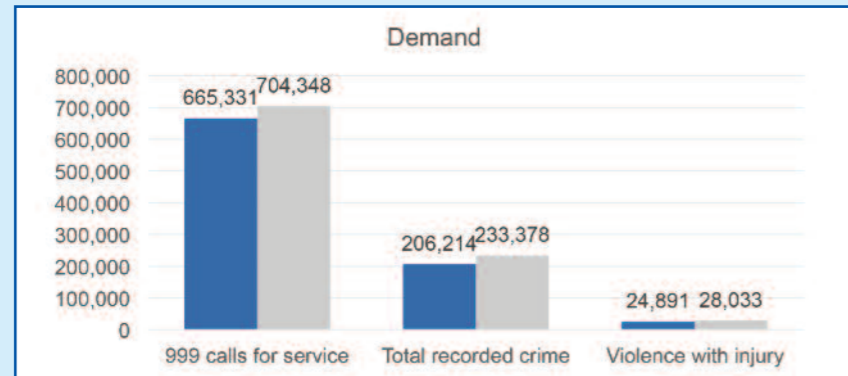
The Crime Survey for England and Wales asks respondents a number of questions on perception of local police. Perception measures tend to show fairly small changes over time. The proportion of respondents who strongly agree or tend to agree that 'taking everything into account I have confidence in the police in this area' has decreased slightly in the West Midlands force area from 76.4% in 2016/17 to 75.6% in 2017/18. In England and Wales the average for 2017/18 was 78.4%.



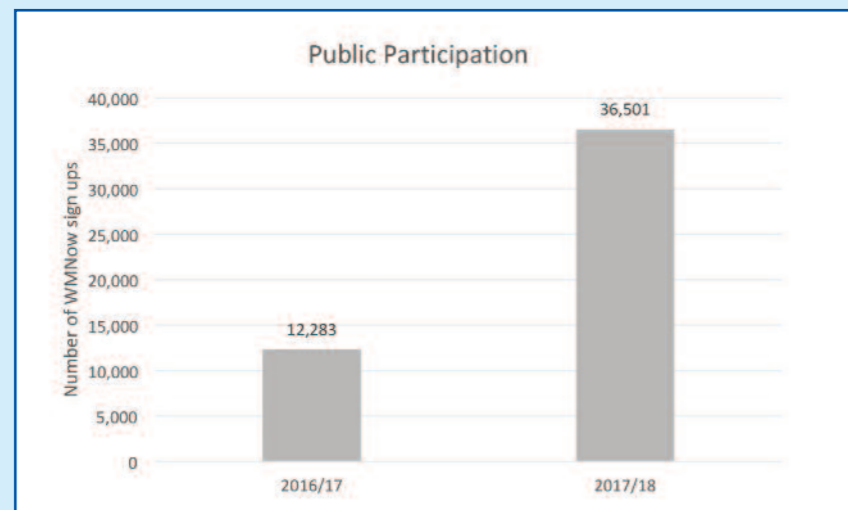
The number of allegations made against police per 1,000 employees has fallen between 2016/17 and 2017/18 from 190 to 157. This is below the most similar force group average which stood at 219 in 2017/18. However, while the number of complaints has fallen and is below average, the timeliness of resolving or finalising allegations has deteriorated with the number of days taken to locally resolve or to finalise by local investigation both increasing between 2016/17 and 2017/18. The average number of days taken to locally resolve allegations stood at 124 in 2017/18 compared to the Most Similar Forces (MSF) average of 85. The average number of days taken to finalise allegations by local investigation stood at 304 in 2017/18 compared to the MSF average of 225. In 17/18 West Midlands Police has closed several long standing allegations which does raise the average days considerably.



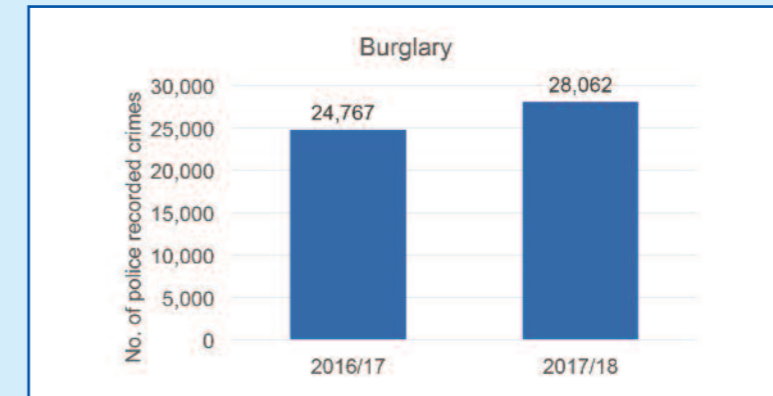
Performance



Between 2016/17 and 2017/18 demand for policing in the West Midlands has seen a substantial increase. 999 calls increased 6% over the period and total recorded crime 13% (the same as for England and Wales on average). Violence with injury also increased by 13%. The West Midlands has seen an increase in recorded crime inline with the England and Wales. There maybe several reasons for this, but not least the problem of resourcing. Since 2010, West Midlands Police has seen its budget reduced by £175m which has led to 2,000 fewer police officers and 1,000 fewer police staff. Due to cuts across the public sector, the police has gone from the service of last resort to first.



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In 2017/18 there were 28,062 burglaries in the West Midlands force area. This is an increase of 13% from 2016/17 and equates to 9.7 burglaries per 1,000 population. Birmingham West (11.3), Coventry (9.9), Solihull (10.6) and Walsall (10.6) also had higher burglary rates than the average.



In 2017/18 there were 7,458 robberies in the West Midlands force area. This is an increase of 27% from 2016/17 and equates to 2.4 per 1,000 population. Birmingham West had a higher robbery rate than the average at 4.1 per 1,000 population.



Social Media and Website Engagement

Staying in touch with members of the public and key partners is a top priority for the Office of the PCC. As well as a regularly updated website, the PCC maintains a strong presence on Facebook and Twitter. It is vital that the PCC is contactable and that news from the office is accessible across a variety of platforms. The office's social media activity is a part of the Commissioner's duty to consult and allowing the public to make comments on any decisions which may affect them. This is our online year 2017/18:

Twitter

In 2017/18 the official @WestMidsPCC account, which at the time of writing has over 10,500 followers, tweeted 749 times, which gained 2,125,800 impressions, an increase of 34% on the previous year, and over 1,100 new followers. The account was mentioned in tweets 5,659 times in 17/18.

Facebook

At the end of 2017/18 the PCC's Facebook page had 1,321 likes, an increase of 30% compared to 16/17.

The increase in engagement on social media platforms allows the PCC to reach the public in many ways and understand the issues that really matter to the public. We have begun using more videos in social media posts, these are subtitled to make them more accessible.

Website

In the past year, 59,606 people have used the official West Midlands PCC website. There was a total of 208,753 page views. The website is a comprehensive source for all of the PCC's news, decisions and information around transparency.

Correspondence

In 2017/18 the PCC's office responded to 1,940 pieces of correspondence. This averages out at over 37 per week. The PCC's Business Support Team answered 6,340 calls in total. This averages out at 121 per week. Both of these are an increase on the previous year.

The Commissioner encourages anyone with an issue concerning policing or crime to get in touch. Casework for his Business Support Team has included requests for funding, anti-social behaviour issues, complaints regarding West Midlands Police and Freedom of Information requests. Other reasons for contact have included mental health issues, general advice, event invitations and information about placements, work experience or careers within the office.

Members of the public can contact the office by calling 0121 626 6060, emailing wmpcc@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk, writing to Office of the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, Lloyd House, Colmore Circus Queensway, Birmingham, B4 6NQ or via the www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk website.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson has committed to making West Midlands Police look more like the communities it serves. In his own office he is putting that commitment into action. 12 of the PCC's 35 staff (34.2 per cent) are from BME backgrounds and 21 staff (60 per cent) are female.

WMP2020

The WMP2020 Change Programme was set up in 2014 to deliver the WMP2020 vision of Policing in the West Midlands by 2020. A Blueprint for the new Operating Model was designed by West Midlands Police (WMP), alongside its innovation partner, Accenture (UK) Limited.

We have already seen the approval and sign-off of two large transformation projects, Connect (formally Operational Policing Solution) and Data Driven Insight (DDI) that will form the bedrock of delivery through 2018, alongside The Emergency Services Mobile Communication Programme (ESMCP) and Command and Control programme (C&C). The NGES programme also continues rollout, together with the mobilisation of three new programmes, commissioned as part of the Programme of Work refresh, conducted earlier this year.

Some of the achievements of the programme so far are:

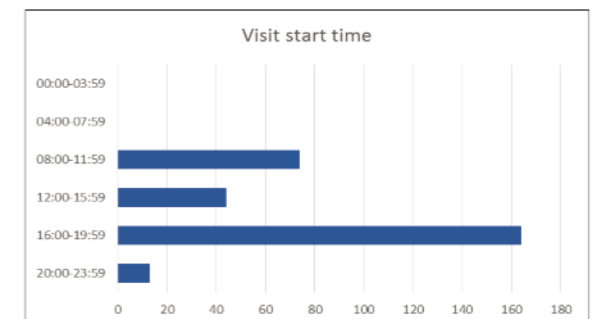
- 1,450 body worn cameras have been rolled out to police officers.
- 3,810 mobile devices have been given to officers, allowing them to do more work on the move with bespoke apps.
- A new website which allows members of the public to report crime online and track the progress of the case.
- 54,425 members of the public signed up to WMNow allowing police to communicate on issues affecting individual communities.
- 89 dedicated neighbourhood teams working with the community on key issues that matter to them.

Independent Custody Visitors

There are 96 custody visitors in the West Midlands, giving up their free time to ensure those held in police cells are treated appropriately.

There is a team for each Neighbourhood Policing Unit and the volunteers independently review custody safeguarding for both detainees and staff.

Custody visitors talked to 2,243 detainees in 2017/18.



Detainees visited	Detainees present	Visits offered	Visits accepted	% of detainees present who accepted visits
PACE Adult	2,832	2,272	1,986	70
PACE Juvenile	168	128	117	70
Home Office	87	56	56	64
Other	156	99	84	54
Total	3,243	2,555	2,243	69



Assistant Police and Crime Commissioners and Strategic Policing and Crime Board



Assistant Police and Crime Commissioners

Ashley Bertie

Ashley Bertie is in his second year as an Assistant PCC. He has particular responsibility for young people, cadets, drugs, stop and search along with gangs and violence.

Dr Lynnette Kelly

Dr Kelly is a member of Coventry City Council and is the former Cabinet Member for Business, Employment and Enterprise. Lynnette has particular responsibilities for vehicle crime, police recruitment, performance and the Criminal Justice System.

Strategic Policing and Crime Board

The Strategic Policing and Crime Board ensures effective engagement, strategic direction and holding to account of West Midlands Police. In addition to the Police and Crime Commissioner and Assistant Commissioners there are seven Board Members.

Meetings of the Strategic Policing and Crime Board take place at 10am on the third Tuesday of each month at Lloyd House, Birmingham.

The full board is as follows:

Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson

Senior Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner Ashley Bertie

Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner Cllr Dr Lynnette Kelly

Board member Brendan Connor

Board member Dr Cath Hannon

Board member Ernie Hendricks

Board member Gurinder Josan

Board member Dr Sarah Marwick

Board member Tom McNeil

Board member Waheed Saleem

All of the agendas, decisions and information about the board, which not only helps the PCC hold the Chief Constable to account but also monitors the performance of the force, are available here <http://www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk/strategicpolicingand-crime-board/spcb-dates-of-meetings-and-reports>

To increase transparency and accessibility the PCC webcasts public board meetings. Meetings can be viewed here: <https://westmidspcc.public-tv/core/portal/home>

Campaigns

Tackling knife crime

Tackling knife crime is a key priority of the Police and Crime Commissioner. In addition to supporting the Commission on Gangs and Violence the PCC supports other initiatives.

The PCC has continued to invest in weapon surrender bins and maintains 12 across the region which are designed to offer people a place to dispose of weapons safely. He is committed to increasing this number and to ensuring that every borough has a minimum of at least one bin for people to safely dispose of weapons in. By April 2019 there will be at least 20 weapon surrender bins.

The PCC is continuing to support preventative work in schools, including funding the Precious Lives programme that warns thousands of young people each year of the dangers of carrying a knife.



The PCC, having successfully campaigned for a ban on the sale of co-called zombie knives, has continued to keep up the pressure on the issue of the sale of dangerous knives. These weapons have no practical usage, other than to kill or seriously injure and glamorise violence with bright designs and names such as 'head splitter.' Following continued action by David

Jamieson, the government has also announced plans to ban the possession of such knives. The PCC is going further to clamp down on loopholes, whereby manufacturers are trying to get around legislation by removing branding from the weapons. The Home Office has committed to working with the Commissioner on that issue.

Tackling the scourge of drugs

West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson announced a set of practical proposals to tackle the cost of drugs to public services, reduce drug related crime and the shocking number of deaths in the region. The PCC is working to deliver those proposals, with drug safety testing introduced to the West Midlands for the first time this year.

The Commissioner's proposals include:

- Establishing a formal scheme to divert those suffering from addiction into treatment and away from the courts.
- Joining-up police, community safety and public health funding streams to increase efficiency and improve outcomes for those suffering from addiction.
- Prescribing heroin in a medical setting to people suffering from addiction who have not responded to other forms of treatment. This will take the market away from organised criminals and stop people stealing to fund their addiction. Work with the Home Office, who have championed the benefits of Heroin Assisted Treatment.
- Equipping and training police officers in the application of naloxone - a medication that can be used to help those overdosing.
- Establishing a Drug Early Warning Programme, to make the public, outreach workers and medical professionals aware of the impact of emerging drugs. The aim is to reduce the number of deaths.
- Introducing on-site testing in night-time economy areas to reduce the number of deaths and increase the authorities' intelligence of drugs in circulation.



- Considering the benefits of Drug Consumption Rooms to assess if they would add value to current services in the West Midlands. Drug Consumption Rooms allow people suffering from addiction to access clean equipment, medical support and drug treatment services.
- Ensuring more money is seized from large-scale organised criminal gangs, profiting from the misery of the drugs trade. The extra money will be invested in drug treatment programmes.

The proposals follow a detailed report already published by the Commissioner on the cost of drugs to the West Midlands. It estimated that the cost of substance misuse in the West Midlands is £1.4 billion each year. Half of all burglary, theft, shoplifting and robbery is committed by people suffering from serious addiction to drugs including heroin and crack cocaine. Every three days in the West Midlands somebody dies from drug poisoning, while organised criminals are profiting from this misery.

There has also been a consultation and wide-ranging summit that brought top politicians, health professionals and drugs experts together to find new ways of tackling the problem of drugs in the West Midlands.

Unauthorised Encampments

The PCC and Pat McFadden MP led a group of 15 MPs to call on the government to give police and councils stronger powers to deal with unauthorised traveller encampments.

In our official response to the government's consultation, the PCC and 15 West Midlands MPs have called for:

- Stronger powers to allow police to direct unauthorised encampments to transit sites across local council boundaries.
- Repeat trespass on private (including business) premises by unauthorised encampments to be made a criminal offence.
- Allow councils to work together across boundaries to ban problematic individuals from trespassing across whole regions like the West Midlands.
- The government to ensure laws are working to make fly-tippers pay for clean-up costs.

The next Unauthorised Encampments Summit is due to be held on 21st September 2018, by which time we will see if the Government has taken on our recommendations and acted to improve the UK's laws and policies for unauthorised encampments.

A major success has been the PCC working with councils to adopt transit sites, giving the police the tools they need to help resolve the issues.

The transit site in Sandwell has seen the time that unauthorised encampments spend in the borough cut by 95%. The clean-up costs, particularly of fly-tipping and damage, fell by 96% from £252,000 to just £10,000. As other councils look to take action, we could see the same results across the West Midlands.

Local Criminal Justice Board

The PCC has reinvigorated the Local Criminal Justice Board. Its purpose is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system. The PCC works with the Crown Prosecution Service, the National Probation Service, mental health service providers, local council youth offending teams and others to drive improvements in the system.

The board is committed to ensuring that the CJS in the West Midlands is efficient and effective, to identifying and resolving performance issues and to improving cross-agency working.

Local priorities of the group include:

- Reducing offending and reoffending
- Criminal Justice efficiency
- Better outcomes and services for victims and witnesses
- Youth Justice / children and the transition to adulthood
- Disproportionality in the system

Stop and Search

A few years ago, the use of stop and search in the West Midlands was threatening to undermine trust in the community and detract from all the important work that the police were doing to investigate crime and protect the public.

The police have the power to stop, search and question people at any time if they suspect that person of committing an offence. For a stop and search to be lawfully recorded however, the officer involved must have 'reasonable suspicion' that a person has committed an offence or is carrying a prohibited item.



Better targeting means we're stopping fewer people, but finding just as many offences.

In 2011/12, 64,000 people were subject to stop and search across the West Midlands. Only 4% of such encounters resulted in an arrest and a staggering 27% of records did not meet the requirements to demonstrate lawful use of the power.

By 2017/18, the numbers of searches had been reduced to just over 12,000. However, the positive outcome rate (including arrests) had grown to 29%. 97% of all records were shown to be lawfully compliant.

The total overhaul of the power by West Midlands Police, has led to an increase in its effectiveness across the region. West Midlands Police was one of the first to adopt the Home Office's "best use of stop and search" scheme, and is now a leader in this arena.

Disproportionality is falling, but remains an issue.

In 2011/12, when so many more people were being stopped and search, stop and search was also disproportionately used with members of the black and minority ethnic (BAME) community. At that time, BAME people were five times more likely to be subject to stop and search than members of the white population. The rates of disproportionality have since fallen to 3 times that of the white population.





Disproportionality can be a major source of tension between the police and the public. The trust of the public is essential for the police to function, and where it is undermined it can hamper the ability of a police service to reduce crime.

To better understand why Stop and Search continues to disproportionately affect BAME people, we have commissioned an independent research project with the University of Warwick. This will provide a better understanding of the situation, but more importantly will inform the next steps we take to address the issue of disproportionality.

Young people knowing their rights is good for them, and it's good for us too.

This year, we commissioned nine Stop and Search Youth Trainers to deliver first class training workshops to 13-18 year olds in secondary schools and colleges throughout the West Midlands.

In the West Midlands there are also 10 local Stop and Search Scrutiny Panels. The panels are independent from the police and made up of members of the public. They act as a forum where West Midlands Police is fully accountable to the public for their actions.

Panel members regularly meet to review the stop and searches that have happened in their area and challenge any records that do not meet their standard. Panels have directly led to refresher training for police officers and influenced wider decision making in West Midlands Police.

Twice a year, anyone with an interest in Stop and Search in our area is invited to take part in the Commission. This is where we debate the latest issues and develop an action plan for the next six months. The bulk of the Commission is made up of Scrutiny Panel members, but Youth Trainers, academics and police officers also join us.

The Commission is made up of diverse people with diverse views, but we all share one goal: to make stop and search in the West Midlands as

fair and effective as it can be. It is a great forum for sharing best practice and hearing about the bigger picture of stop and search across the region and country.

There is not a single way to improve the fairness and effectiveness of stop and search. Instead, it requires effort from all angles, and a concerted effort to bring the public on this journey with us. We must continue to stop bad practice wherever we find it. While we believe we have a set of good policies here to address the issues, we must also continue to search for better ways of doing things.

Vehicle crime

The Police and Crime Commissioner, David Jamieson, begun a campaign to tackle the rise of vehicle theft, which has more than doubled in the past 2 years in the West Midlands. The PCC has called on car manufacturers to increase the security of their vehicles so they cannot be stolen using electronic equipment easily bought online.

Commission on Gangs and Violence

In 2016, following an increase in violent crime in the West Midlands, the Police and Crime Commissioner launched a major review into gangs and violence in the region. David Jamieson wanted answers to better understand why these crimes were on the rise.

A team of specialists were assembled to form a Commission on Gangs and Violence. They began by talking and listening to the people of the West Midlands. They then worked closely with local communities to find answers. They carried out surveys, held interviews, conducted workshops, visited schools, businesses and sports clubs, spoke with the Prince's Trust and liaised with central Government.

The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner has committed to spending an extra £2 million tackling gangs and violence over the next two years.

The investment, by David Jamieson, is in response to a 201 page report which he commissioned following an increase in violent crime in the West Midlands.



young people involved in violence and divert them away from a life of crime.

This investment by the PCC follows a recent and sustained increase in gun and knife crime.

Business Crime

In July, the PCC, West Midlands Police and businesses joined forces in a new partnership aimed at cutting crime and boosting the economy.

The newly launched

West Midlands Business Crime Partnership (WMBCP) will create a united approach where the business community and police can share information and advice to prevent crime and catch offenders.

The board is made up of a range of police and business representatives which includes the Federation of Small Business, Association of Convenience Stores, Chamber of Commerce and Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson

Mental Health

Work on mental health is ongoing with partners from across the West Midlands. The Mental Health Triage, which is a response team made up from police, paramedics and a mental health nurse now operates across Birmingham, Coventry and the Black Country.

Superintendent Sean Russell is on a secondment to the West Midlands Combined Authority as the Implementation Director for the Mental Health Commission.

The funding will be put in place for a wide range of projects, including:

- A team of expert negotiators will be set up to defuse violence between gangs and to help individuals escape a life of crime.
- A mentoring scheme will be formed to help young people, at risk of offending, make the right life choices.
- A package of support will be put in place to rehabilitate ex-offenders as they leave prison and re-enter their communities. The aim is to break the cycle of crime.
- A set of programmes will be established designed to provide alternative activities for young people at risk of school exclusion and offending.

The Police and Crime Commissioner is already supporting the Commission's recommendations by introducing Police Cadet Units in areas affected by gangs and violence; supporting a multi-million pound programme to help young people, on the brink of criminality, find training and work; fund an extensive anti-violence programme in schools and is bringing in a team of experts who will be based in hospitals to identify



Cadets

Police cadets returned to the West Midlands this year.

The voluntary scheme last operated across the region in 1998 but, as part of his police and crime plan, Commissioner David Jamieson has re-introduced the initiative as a key link between the force and the younger generation.

The units are based in Birmingham, Sandwell, Dudley and Coventry; with others expected to be rolled out in future.

Every volunteer will have access to a variety of professional development opportunities and the chance to have a sustained and positive influence in the lives of our young people. The scheme will be open to 13 to 17-year-olds with cohorts of up to thirty cadets per unit. Activities during the holidays have also been introduced.

Each unit will follow a curriculum set by the national body, Volunteer Police Cadets, alongside force-specific talks, visits and even deployment at events such as Remembrance Day and Birmingham Pride.

Recruitment

Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson announced plans in 2016 to take on 1,150 new starters over the next three years to stabilise the decline in police numbers.

The recruitment drive was broken down to 800 new officers, 200 specialist staff and 150 PCSOs.

This year the PCC increased the number of officers to be recruited by 100, paid for by further efficiencies and an increase to the council tax.

Due to budget cuts the force was due to lose 128 officer posts by 2020. Under the PCC's new plans West Midlands Police will stabilise at 6,500 officers (down from 6,528). To standstill West Midlands Police requires an additional £22 million a year. This increase in council tax raises under half of that amount at £9.5 million, with difficult financial decisions remaining.

The plan increased the policing precept by £12 a year for a Band D council taxpayer in the West Midlands to £128.55. All surrounding forces charge a council tax precept of at least £50 more than West Midlands Police. The precept remains the second lowest in the whole country.

Victims Commission

As part of the PCC's first Victims Strategy, the OPCC has worked closely with the voluntary and community sector (VCS), West Midlands Police and partner agencies to create a Victims Commission as the advisory body for specialist victim services. Victims will have support available whether or not they have reported the crime to the police.

The Commission benefits from external involvement from individuals, groups, organisations and communities.

Table to show funding spent per Victims Commission priority 2017-18:

Priority	Allocation £s
First Contact, Assessment & Referral Centre	1,038,920
West Midlands Domestic Abuse Service	586,200
West Midlands Sexual Abuse Service	961,424
Child Sexual Abuse	65,129
Victim Support Family Intervention Project	81,000
FGM Support Services	94,117
Modern Slavery	25,081
Hate Crime	39,631
Fatal Criminal Road Traffic	86,470
Honour Based Violence/Forced Marriage	155,081
Young victims	14,996
Culturally Sensitive Support	14,972
Total	3,163,021



Outstanding Citizens Awards 2017

Community heroes from across the West Midlands were honoured at the Police and Crime Commissioner's Outstanding Citizens Awards on July 7th 2017.

Nominations are taken from the community and provide an opportunity to celebrate the untold stories of those who volunteer, campaign or take part in acts of extraordinary bravery. David Jamieson said: "These awards are an opportunity to acknowledge the bravery, dedication and outstanding work of so many members of our communities.

"This year it was particularly tough to choose and decide on the winners due to the high calibre of nominees. They have all done something amazing. It is wonderful for the West Midlands to celebrate its achievements.

"It never fails to astound me the number of citizens who go out of their way just to do the right thing by their community."

The winners: Outstanding Citizen

This award went to a recently bereaved mother who lost her 12 year old son in 2015. He wasn't wearing a seatbelt when he was thrown from a car and killed. Ever since, Sukhi Atwal, has campaigned to promote the use of seatbelts.

Outstanding Community Project

O'Dells Community Amateur Boxing Club in Birmingham's Bromford and Firs estate. Founded 4 years ago it has helped curb anti-social behaviour in the local area

Outstanding Young Citizen

This award went to Dudley teenagers Louis Price and Jack Goodman. The pair helped guide the emergency services to a vulnerable person who had gone missing.

Outstanding use of Active Citizens Fund

The Diamond Academy, which provides football coaching for children in Handsworth, walked away with the first gong of the night.

Outstanding Act of Good Citizenship

This award went to bus driver Desmond Johnson, who helped save the life of a boy who was hit by another vehicle on Coleshill road. Keeping him conscious until the air ambulance arrived was a critical act in helping the youngster as he fought for his life.

Special Recognition

Clive Knowles, who has helped police forces tackle knife crime by providing weapons bins for surrenders, was thanked personally for all he has done and handed the Special Recognition Award.



Active Citizens Fund

The Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson, working closely with West Midlands Police, operates the Active Citizens Fund. This pot of money comes from goods and cash seized from criminals through the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA). The PCC allows community groups to bid into the fund, worth almost £1 million, to help them with projects which aim to make communities safer.

Amongst the projects funded this year include Alum Rock Football Academy. The academy, which is run by volunteers, started in 2014 with just 15 young people. Now they have over 100 young people attending each Saturday in one of Birmingham's most deprived areas. They have had 3 successful bids into the fund.

Other projects have included boxing clubs, community clean-ups and street pastors. Police and Crime Commissioner, David Jamieson said: "The Proceeds of Crime Act allows us to use money we have taken away from criminals to put to good use.

"I am pleased to fund so many excellent projects which are transforming and empowering communities across the West Midlands."



Youth Commissioners

The PCC's Youth Commissioners represent young people in the West Midlands. They highlight important issues that affect young people and work to improve them. The Youth Commissioners for 2017/18 are:

Birmingham North: Zoe Allen

Birmingham East: Connor Fowler

Birmingham West and Central: Jack McTavish

Sandwell: Raihaanah Kalthoom

Coventry: Anil Kararra and Yazmin Francis

Dudley: Alex Russell and Becky Foster

Solihull: Parveen Sahota and Mollyrose Byrne

Wolverhampton: Brandi Thompson and Khatira Hakimi

Walsall: Luke McDermott and Charlie Graver



Summits

The Police and Crime Commissioner regularly hosts summits and events to engage with a range of people and groups on many different topics. These summits have a direct impact on the PCC's policies and are opportunities to listen to the views of others. This year has seen some very impactful summits, which have sought to address some of the key issues facing the West Midlands.

The PCC held a Partnerships summit in October. This was a half day summit which brought together agencies from across the public sector. Plans to move to a West Midlands wide Community Safety Partnership was agreed.

A Cybercrime & Business Summit was also held in October, bringing partners together to discuss threats to business and how best to combat them.

The annual Victims Summit took place in November. This was an opportunity to showcase the good support work carried out across the West Midlands through recommendations by the Victims Commission. Baroness Newlove, the government's Victims Commissioner was the keynote speaker.

The Rebalancing Act Conference, a joint event with Public Health England was held in Birmingham. The aim was to bring together Criminal Justice System and health bodies and discuss how they can work together more effectively; focus on mental health, physical health and substance misuse. Drugs are a good example of how things are failing.

Likely the most important event of the year was held on 7th December. This was the launch of the Gangs and Violence Commission's report. The report was built on 18 months of consultation with communities and organisations and looks at how serious violence can be tackled in the region.

The annual Youth Summit was held in December. Over 100 young people attended and discussed issues around youth criminality. The new Youth Commissioners were also announced.

Another key event of the year was the Drugs Summit. It worked with key stakeholders to outline the problem of the current drug strategy and its collective failings. It aims to determine practical and informed methods of reducing harm and preventing crime through open discussion.

As part of the PCC's statutory duty, David Jamieson held a business summit to discuss the West Midlands Police budget and policing precept. Conversations were held with businesses around modern slavery and vehicle crime.

The PCC held a roundtable to discuss how to tackle uninsured vehicles. Bringing together West Midlands Police, Insurance companies: Aviva, Direct Line Group, Zurich. Each discussed the issues they face and how they can be solved.

The Stop and Search Commission meets twice a year. Here interested parties, the police, members of the stop & search scrutiny panels come together to look at performance data around stop & search and how the tool can be improved.



Decisions of the PCC

The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner is the local governing body for policing in the West Midlands*. The Commissioner has executive powers to make decisions that are set out in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and he is required to publish a record of those decisions. What follows are the decisions taken from April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018. All of the decisions and the work of the PCC are scrutinised by the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel, which meets once a month and acts as a critical friend to the Commissioner. Full details of the work of the Police and Crime Panel can be found on its website, <http://westmidlandspcp.co.uk/>.

6th April 2017
PCC Decision 016-2017 External Grants 2017
PCC Decision 016-2017 is a decision to allocate funding to a total of £3,872,250 to a series of projects and schemes in 2017-18 in support of the objectives in the West Midlands Police and Crime Plan 2016-2020

April 7, 2017
PCC Decision 017-2017 Treasury Management Strategy 2017-18
PCC Decision 017-2017 relates to the Commissioner formally adopting the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management and the Commissioner approving the Treasury Strategy Statement for 2017/18

April 21, 2017
PCC Decision 018-2017 The Provision for the Supply of Temporary Agency Staff
PCC Decision 018-2017 is a confidential decision regarding the provision for the supply of temporary agency staff.

May 4, 2017
PCC Decision 019-2017 Support Services for Victims of Crime
PCC Decision 019-2017 is a decision regarding the provision of Support Services for Victims of Crime.

May 11, 2017
PCC Decision 020-2017 Pooling the Risk to Support the Digital Policing Programme
PCC Decision 020-2017 is a decision in relation to Pooling the Risk to Support the Digital Policing Programme.

May 11, 2017
PCC decision 021-2017 Extension of Contracts - Non Exec SPCB Members
PCC decision 021-2017 is a decision in regards to the Extension of Contracts - Non Exec SPCB Members

May 11, 2017
PCC Decision 022-2017 Provision of Financial Assistance - Home Office Circular 43-2001
PCC Decision 022-2017 is a confidential decision in regards to Provision of Financial Assistance - Home Office Circular 43-2001

May 24, 2017
PCC decision 024-2017 NACVIS NWCU NPFDU - Section 22A collaboration agreement
PCC 024/2017 is non-confidential decision relating to "National Vehicle Crime Intelligence Service (NACVIS)/ National Wildlife Crime unit (NWCU) and National Police Freedom of Information and Data Protection Unit (NPFDU) - Section 22A Collaboration Agreement"

June 2, 2017
PCC decision 025 2017 Appointments to Strategic Policing and Crime Board
PCC decision 025 2017 is a non-confidential decision in regards to appointments to the Strategic Policing and Crime Board and appointment of a Strategic Adviser to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

June 13, 2017
PCC Decision 026-2017 Victims Services
PCC decision 026 2017 is a non-confidential decision in regards to Victims Services.



August 7, 2017

PCC decision 027-2017 Healthcare in Custody Services

PCC decision 027 2017 is a commercially confidential decision in regards to Healthcare in Custody Services.

August 7, 2017

PCC decision 028-2017 Payment of Study Costs Policy

PCC decision 028 2017 is a decision to update OPCC policies.

August 8, 2017

PCC decision 029-2017 Victims Fund

PCC decision 029 2017 is a non-confidential decision in regards to the Victims Fund.

August 24, 2017

PCC Decision 031-2017 Provision of Financial Assistance

PCC Decision 031-2017 is a confidential decision referring to the Provision of Financial Assistance - Home Office Circular 43/2001.

September 8, 2017

PCC Decision 032-2017 The Provision for the Supply and Maintenance of a Duty Management System

PCC Decision 032-2017 is a confidential decision regarding the Provision for the Supply and Maintenance of a Duty Management System.

September 8, 2017

PCC Decision 033-2017 Dilapidations Aqueous II

PCC Decision 033-2017 is a confidential decision regarding Dilapidations Aqueous II

October 31, 2017

PCC Decision 036 - Decision DDI Project

PCC decision 036 -2017 is a commercially confidential decision relating to the Procurement Decisions Relating to the Data Driven Insight (DDI) Project.

December 7, 2017

PCC Decision 037-2017 Annual Report 2017

PCC decision 037-2017 relates to the publication of the Annual Report 2017.

December 18, 2017

PCC decision 038-2017 Microsoft Enterprise subscription agreement

PCC decision 038-2017 is a commercially confidential decision relation to a Microsoft Enterprise subscription agreement contract award.

December 22, 2017

PCC Decision 039-2017 Victims Services

PCC Decision 039-2017 is a decision relating to Victims Services.

January 15, 2018

PCC Decision 001-2018 Proposed Sale of Darlaston and Old Hill Police Stations

PCC Decision 001-2018 is in relation to the Proposed Sale of Darlaston and Old Hill Police Stations

February 9, 2018

PCC Decision 002-2018 Budget

PCC Decision 002-2018 is in relation to the Budget.

March 20, 2018

PCC Decision 003-2018 WMP Estates Programme

PCC Decision 003-2018 is in relation to West Midlands Police's Estates Programme.

March 26, 2018

PCC Decision 004-2018 Victims Services

PCC 004-2017 is a decision relating to Victims Services.

Achievements of your PCC

- Plans put in place to recruit a further 100 police officers on top of the 800 already committed.
- A new cadets scheme for young people in the West Midlands
- Fresh investment to tackle the root causes of gangs and violence
- A new approach to tackle the scourge of drugs
- Introduced the Living Wage, as set by the Living Wage Foundation, for all West Midlands Police staff
- Awarded a Transparency Quality Mark - meaning the PCC has a high standard of accessible information for the public



west midlands
police and crime
commissioner

