

Divisions Affected - All

**PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
– 25 July 2025**

Police and Crime Commissioner Annual Report 2024-25

**Report by Matthew Barber,
Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner**

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Committee is **RECOMMENDED** to
 - a. **CONSIDER** the Police and Crime Commissioner's annual report;
 - b. **RAISE** any questions;
 - c. **AGREE** any recommendations it wishes to make in its role as the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee.

Executive Summary

2. The Annual Report 2024-25 for the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) marks the first year of delivery under my new five-year Police and Criminal Justice Plan. It highlights the early progress made in delivering on the strategic priorities I set out following my re-election in May 2024.
3. Key achievements include the expansion of the Rural Crime Taskforce, the launch of a Thames Valley-wide youth intervention programme to tackle knife crime, the continued rollout of the CCTV Partnership, and the transformation of forensic services. These initiatives are already delivering tangible improvements in public safety, victim outcomes, and community confidence.

Overview of Achievements 2024-25

Strengthening Neighbourhood and Rural Policing

4. Additional frontline officers were recruited by Thames Valley Police, enabling the creation of Priority Crime Teams to tackle burglary, theft, and shoplifting - an outcome aligned with the priorities I set out in the Police and Criminal Justice Plan.
5. The Rural Crime Taskforce was significantly expanded, leading to increased disruption of organised crime groups and improved community confidence in rural

areas. I have continued to support this work through strategic oversight and funding.

Tackling Knife Crime and Youth Violence

6. A Thames Valley-wide prevention programme was launched in partnership with Criminal Justice to deter knife and weapon carrying among young people.
7. I am encouraged by the early engagement figures and the positive feedback from participants and community stakeholders.

Investing in Crime Prevention Infrastructure

8. The Thames Valley CCTV Partnership continued to grow, delivering sustainable and modernised CCTV coverage to support crime detection and public reassurance.
9. This investment is already contributing to improved investigative outcomes and greater community safety.

Transforming Investigations and Victim Outcomes

10. A Forensics Improvement Programme was supported and championed through strategic oversight, helping to modernise Thames Valley Police's forensic services and enhance the quality and speed of investigations.
11. High-quality victim services were commissioned, including specialist support for victims of domestic abuse, stalking, and serious violence.

Building a Stronger OPCC

12. I restructured the Office of the PCC to improve commissioning capability, partnership engagement, and delivery oversight – ensuring the organisation is well-positioned to lead system-wide change.

Conclusions and Next Steps

13. The progress detailed in this report reflects a strong start to the delivery of my 2024-29 Police and Criminal Justice Plan. Looking ahead to 2025-26, my key focus area will include:
 - a. **Supporting Schedule 1 Authorities across Thames Valley to meet the requirements of the Serious Violence Duty** to embed a public health approach to serious violence across Thames Valley.
 - b. **Delivering a new Victims Funding Strategy** to align with upcoming legislation and ensure sustainable, high-quality support services.
 - c. **Championing whole-system reform of criminal justice:** In light of growing pressures across courts, prisons, probation, and victim services, I will continue to advocate for a properly funded, joined-up justice system.

National investment and reform are urgently needed to restore public confidence and deliver real justice for victims.

- d. **Exploring the opportunities of local government reorganisation and devolution:** I will continue to engage with partners to understand how devolution could support more integrated, locally accountable justice and community safety services.
- e. **Enhancing public confidence and trust** through improved transparency, engagement, and outcomes for victims and communities.

Annex: PCC Annual Report 2024-25

Background papers: [Police and Crime Plan 2024-2029](#)

June 2025