



Police Liaison Representative Scheme Report of the Annual Conference 2025

The 4th Police Liaison Representative (PLR) Annual Conference took place online at 1900 on 17 June 2025. Danny Moody, Chief Executive of Northants CALC, opened the proceedings and welcomed the attendees and special guests. Over sixty PLRs registered for the event, so there was a lively audience and lots of participation from the start.

Danny Moody introduced special guest, Ivan Balhatchet, who was appointed as the Chief Constable for Northamptonshire Police in February 2025. Ivan originally joined Northamptonshire Police in 2000 where he carried out a variety of roles, mainly as a detective. He has been a Senior Investigating Officer, Strategic Firearms Commander and a hostage negotiator.

Following the Chief Constable's talk, Danielle Stone, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC), was introduced and about the Safe & Sound public safety plan for Northamptonshire and the importance of working with communities and community leaders. Danielle has been particularly keen to get out and about across the county to engage with communities, whether that be communities of place or of interest.

Having the Chief Constable and Commissioner in attendance allowed for a Q&A session to be undertaken – some questions were submitted in advance, and many were asked in the 'Chat' function throughout the meeting. The general themes of the questions were: Northamptonshire Police recruitment (and retention) of officers, building trust and confidence in the Force, and data sharing.

The questions and answers will be collated into a report to be shared with the PLR – this can then be used to identify ongoing areas for improvement.

The attendees were then allocated to breakout rooms based on their preferences submitted at booking time. The breakout rooms were:

- **Anti-Social Behaviour** – Increased intelligence gathering, enhanced visibility and community engagement through regular foot patrols, OP Reassure (*Facilitator – Inspector Nicola Davis-Lyons, Northants Police*)
- **Road Safety** – Tackling e-scooter use, an insight into Operation Snap, and Community Speed Watch (*Facilitator - Inspector Scott Farrant, Northants Police*.)
- **Rural Crime** – Visible and accessible rural team, tackling Drone use, and understanding acquisitive crime (*Facilitator – Chief Inspector Dave Wakeman, Northants Police*)

In the plenary session following the breakout rooms each of the facilitators gave a short summary of the topics that were discussed, the questions that had been asked, and the action points that had been identified:

Anti-Social Behaviour

Discussed the topic of CCTV and whether Parish Councils should look to implement it – even if the

footage will not be monitored. It can be a benefit to the Police, but there seemed to be a reluctance from councils around what can and cannot be recorded. Inspector Davis-Lyons is going to produce a guide for this.

News of what the team are doing is largely distributed through Northamptonshire Talking – it was asked if the team can provide a few lines of what they've been doing to include in the monthly update. Inspector Davis-Lyons will talk to Abi Butler.

Highlighted importance of partnership working – if there is an ASB issue in a town, there is likely to be underlying causes that the police can't solve alone. So it's about taking a partnership approach.

Road Safety

There was much discussion around the perceived lack of support at Highways. The Community Speed Watch initiative was a topic and stories of how this has worked in the community were shared – including the frustration about the current set-up of the initiative. Some PLRs reporting receiving funding from the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for “work-arounds” to dealing with road safety and for monitoring roads.

Inspector Farrant is going to source further information around the Safer Roads Team and level of resourcing.

Op Snap was raised in more detail and looked at how the footage is used – Inspector Farrant has questions to ask regarding this.

Rural Crime

An introduction was given about the rural crime provision and strategy – what the focuses are, and how the team are working with neighbouring forces. The Neighbourhood Police Team and Rural Crime Team are working collaboratively. The details of the Rural Crime Team will be shared to all PLRs – this will include the names and contacts (and photos!) of the officers in their area.

Discussed the benefits of using Northamptonshire Talking for sharing messages and how Neighbourhood Watch still plays a part in disseminating information in rural communities.

Chief Inspector Wakeman has questions to take away to gather more information.

Danny Moody highlighted the Rural Action Group (RAG) – Danny Moody attends these meetings on behalf of the Parish Councils in the County and is happy to take messages from the PLRs/Parish Councils to the meetings.

In closing, Danny Moody said that the Northants PLR Scheme was unique and that only Devon had something similar. Consequently, it had come to the attention of the National Police Chiefs' Council as an example of good practice and close working between the Police and parish and town councils. He thanked Northamptonshire Police for its support of the scheme.

Danny Moody wrapped up proceedings and thanked everyone for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 2100.

Present:

Ivan Balhatchet, Chief Constable, Northamptonshire Police
Danielle Stone, Police Fire and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire
Jonny Bugg, Chief Executive, Office of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner

Ashley Tuckley, Deputy Chief Constable, Northamptonshire Police
Chief Inspector Dave Wakeman, Northamptonshire Police
Inspector Nicola Davis-Lyons, Northamptonshire Police
Inspector Scott Farrant, Northamptonshire Police
Abi Butler, Northamptonshire Talking and PLR Central Co-ordinator, Northamptonshire Police
Danny Moody, Chief Executive, Northants CALC
Sophie Harding, Business Support Manager, Northants CALC
PLRs from across Northamptonshire

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