



Police Liaison Representative Scheme Report of the Annual Conference 2024

The 3rd Police Liaison Representative (PLR) Annual Conference took place online at 1900 on 25 June 2024. Danny Moody, Chief Executive of Northants CALC, opened the proceedings and welcomed the attendees and special guests. Over ninety PLRs registered for the event, so there was a lively audience and lots of participation from the off.

Before the main proceedings got underway, Sara Townsend, Prevention Manager at Northamptonshire Police, made an announcement that the force is creating a PLR Co-ordinator role, with interviews taking place and an appointment expected mid-summer. This new resource (20 hours per week) will help improve communications and provide an even better experience for PLRs across Northamptonshire.

Danny Moody then introduced special guest, Danielle Stone, who was elected as the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) for Northamptonshire in May 2024. Danielle described her background in education and that she came to Northamptonshire as an Education Officer working right across the county in schools and in the community. Danielle said that she is a community activist and when things need doing you will usually find her with a group of people trying to get it done.

Danielle said "I'm looking forward to bringing that wealth of experience of working with diverse communities into my role, and I want to be able to do that with urban and rural communities. It is really important for me to understand what's going on everywhere and what people's expectations are."

The Commissioner recognised that there are huge issues and that there had been significant social dislocation in recent times but that she looked forward to a time of renewal. Danielle said: *"Public services aren't functioning very well and because they're not functioning very well, that is putting extra burdens on the police and fire and rescue services. I think we need to be working with our local health partners and other agencies to restore public services."* adding *"That's not in my gift to do alone, but I have convening powers to bring the people together and I will have influence on the national platform."*

Describing herself as *"passionate about prevention"*, Danielle said *"The police, fire, and rescue services cannot do everything on their own; we need to have a really good prevention strategy to help divert people away from crime, where we begin to see that happening. And I know in some of the villages there are really serious issues with antisocial behaviour as well as. But we need enforcement too, so we need to see the police out visible in their neighbourhoods... a police force that communities right across the county are aware of and respect."*

The Commissioner then fielded questions from attendees ranging from issues with visible policing and provision of crime data, through to communications and trust in public servants.

One particular topic was the lack of uniformed police officers attending parish and town council meetings, and responding on behalf of the Commissioner, Deputy Chief Constable Ashley Tuckley said *"There is lots to do to continue to engage and build relationships. I want to go back to basics for a period, and although the PLR scheme is designed to get communications into the meetings, I*

think there is a need (and want) to do this on a more personal level for a period until we have the trust and confidence back.”

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

- **Neighbourhood Policing Teams** – improved foot patrols and allocation of police vehicles (*Facilitator – Inspector Dave Wakeman, Northants Police*)
- **Northants Police Statistics** – improving communication of statistics with the PLRs (*Facilitator - Inspector Miriam Kiernan, Northants Police:*)
- **Understanding the role of PLRs** (PLR and Police Perspectives) (*Facilitator – Sara Townsend, Prevention Manager, Northants Police*)
- **Communications between PLRs and the Police** (*Facilitator – Danny Moody, Chief Executive, Northants CALC*)

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. These will be captured and written up and then used to identify ongoing areas for improvement, including to the PLR Scheme itself.

Danny Moody wrapped up proceedings and thanked everyone for their attendance and then invited the Commissioner to say some closing words. Danielle Stone said *“I think it has been a wonderful thing and we will have learnt so much. I want to work with you all and I look forward to doing that.”*

The meeting closed at 2100.

Present:

Danielle Stone, Police Fire and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire
Jonny Bugg, Chief Executive, Office of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner
Deborah Denton, Head of Communications. Office of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner
Ashley Tuckley, Deputy Chief Constable, Northamptonshire Police
Inspector Dave Wakeman, Northamptonshire Police
Inspector Miriam Kiernan, Northamptonshire Police
Sara Townsend, Prevention Manager, Northamptonshire Police
Dawn Allingham, Corporate Communications, Northamptonshire Police
Danny Moody, Chief Executive, Northants CALC
Sophie Harding, Business Support Manager, Northants CALC
PLRs from across Northamptonshire