

**Our mission is to
get the best for
the public from
the police and to
support others to
keep communities
safe across Devon,
Cornwall and the
Isles of Scilly**

Foreword by the Police and Crime Commissioner Alison Hernandez

This is my third annual report since taking up office in May 2016 and I am proud to be able to share with residents of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly some of the achievements that have been made by my office and Devon and Cornwall Police in that time.

My Police and Crime Plan was designed to create safer, more resilient and better connected communities. It has now been in place for two years and I am pleased that a huge amount has been achieved with these goals in mind.

In this report – which Police and Crime Commissioners have a statutory duty to produce – you will be able to read about and better understand improvements that include:

- Why I decided not to support the proposed merger between Devon and Cornwall Police and Dorset Police
- How we've used the government's flexibility on council tax precept to boost officer numbers
- Why towns of all shapes and sizes are getting state-of-the-art new CCTV systems
- How new Tri-Service Safety Officers and Community Responders are making a real difference to rural communities
- Where we've invested to make our region's roads safer
- Why mentally unwell people are now more likely to be treated

rather than incarcerated due to our commissioning work

- How we're helping to get prison leavers in work to help close the revolving door of reoffending

Through the continued support of council taxpayers the police force is in a stronger position than it was when I came to office in 2016, with an increased budget that will sustain an additional 176 more officers in December 2021 than there were in March 2017.

Calls for police help for a range of issues continues to rise, and I believe this investment is essential to maintain our ranking as the sixth safest force area of the 43 in England and Wales.

Increasing the number of police officers in Devon and Cornwall, and commissioning to reduce crime are commonsense solutions that will keep us all safer and ultimately save public money.

We are fortunate that the crime rate in the Devon and Cornwall remains one of the lowest in England and Wales at (62 crimes per 1,000 of population*) when the national rate is 82. I believe I have set an agenda and direction that will help it remain that way.



Police and Crime Commissioner
Alison Hernandez