



Dan Price
Cheshire
Police & Crime
Commissioner

Annual Report 2024/25



“ This year wasn’t about warming the seat.
It was about getting things done.

It’s been a year of forging relationships, listening and delivering on some big promises.

Dan Price

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When I stood for election and in my Police and Crime Plan, I made clear promises: to listen to the public, modernise policing and reduce crime. This report shows how I’ve started to turn those promises into action.

I’ve launched citizens’ assemblies, the first Police and Crime Commissioner to do so; rolled out new tech to keep people safe and secured record levels of funding for victim support.

I’ve pushed for and been successful in bringing about legislative change; invested more in youth programmes and increased visible policing across Cheshire. And we’ve done all of this while keeping a clear focus on what matters most – working together and making our communities safer.

Cheshire is the safest place to live in the North West. We’ve got more police officers than we’ve had in over a decade and we’re leading the way nationally on stalking prevention and domestic abuse interventions.

This report isn’t just a list of achievements, it’s a snapshot of progress. It shows what happens when we bring partners together, challenge the status quo and stay focused on outcomes.

There’s more to do and I’ll keep you updated regularly.



Dan Price
Cheshire’s Police and Crime Commissioner





Dan Price's first full year report as Cheshire's PCC

Dan Price stepped into the role of Cheshire's Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in May 2024 and hit the ground running. By early 2025, he launched a clear, ambitious Police and Crime Plan that will guide his term through to 2028. This first annual report covers the period from April 2024 to March 2025 and shows what progress he's made in a short amount of time.

The Plan: Three pillars. One mission.

Dan Price's strategy is built on three clear commitments:

Listen to the public

Modernise

Reduce crime

It's about action. Bringing partners together, amplifying the public's voice and making Cheshire's communities safer, stronger and more connected.



Cheshire: A county leading the way

In February, His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) released its latest PEEL inspection report with the results speaking volumes. Cheshire Constabulary has either improved or held strong across every area of policing. Most notably, the force was rated 'Outstanding' in protecting vulnerable people and managing offenders and suspects. That's not just good, it's exceptional.

PEEL
Report:
**Outstanding
results**

PEEL 2023–2025: An inspection of Cheshire Constabulary

Outstanding

Protecting vulnerable people
Managing offenders

Good

Police powers and public treatment
Preventing crime
Developing a positive workplace
Leadership and force management

Adequate

Responding to the public
Investigating crime

Requires improvement

Inadequate

View the report here:

<https://hmicfrs.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/peel-reports/cheshire-2023-25/>

ONS Crime Survey: Safest in the North West

The March 2025 crime report from the Office for National Statistics confirmed that Cheshire is the safest place to live in the North West. The county has the lowest crime rate out of all police force areas across the region.

More officers. Increased visibility

Cheshire now has more than **2,400 police officers**, the highest the county has had. And thanks to a £3 million Government grant, 48 more officers will be visible in our neighbourhoods in the coming year, boosting neighbourhood policing and community presence.

Listen to the public

Real voices. Real impact.

Dan Price's three pillars:

Listening. Modernising. Reducing crime.

Dan Price isn't just talking about change, he's delivering it. His Police and Crime Plan is built on three powerful pillars that are already reshaping policing across Cheshire.

Dan Price promised community-led policing and he's ahead of the game. In 2024/25, he launched **citizens' assemblies** in Crewe, the first of nine across Cheshire. He is the first police and crime commissioner to hold them and they've already earned a **Certificate of Excellence** from the iESE Public Sector Transformation Awards.

“I never knew about the specialist units so that's been really insightful. It's been brilliant, really enjoyed it.”



Dan Price welcomes correspondence into his office. In the period of this report, more than 500 emailed or written queries were logged and actioned.

He's been out and about, travelling across the whole county meeting residents, businesses, faith groups, councillors, MPs and partners.

See where Dan's been



Supporting victims: £1.2 million invested

Dan Price's office secured over **£1.2 million** from the Ministry of Justice and Home Office to support victims and witnesses. Here's where that money went:



Helped over **3,000** people affected by sexual abuse.



Delivered restorative justice, hate crime and youth support programmes.



Supported nearly **21,000** victims.



Engaged **1,400** young people and held the 'Big Conversation' focusing on the themes of community safety and ASB; hate crime; online safety and sexual harassment.



Ran the Appropriate Adult programme for vulnerable suspects (jointly funded with the Constabulary).

Modernise

Smarter tools. Safer communities.

Dan Price is pushing boundaries with tech-driven policing:

Cheshire CARES Pathway

A new website helping domestic abuse survivors find local support.

Cyber resilience scheme

Free advice for businesses to fight cybercrime.

AI for stalking detection

A first-in-the-country tool being developed in 2025

DyTASK

A smart patrol planning tool targeting anti-social behaviour and violence hotspots.

Hollie Guard

2,000 safety app vouchers distributed to vulnerable people.



Wilmslow's new police station

During 2024 – 25 construction took place on this new building. It's leading the way in sustainability and will be the UK's first police station to meet **Passivhaus** standards as well as the first public building in Cheshire.





One of the first new initiatives that Dan Price launched was his **SWAP Fund**, taking money and assets seized from criminals and giving it back to the community to deliver projects for good. By the end of March 2025, **58 projects** had been awarded money of up to £5000 each, with **£200,000 provided in total - the largest amount committed by a Cheshire PCC.**

During October, Dan Price brought together MPs, the National Farmers Union (NFU), farmers and rural communities to call upon the Government to change the **legislation on GPS thefts from rural equipment**. Legislation is changing this autumn.

At the start of 2025, in partnership with Active Cheshire and Cheshire Community Foundation, Dan Price funded **11 projects to deliver innovative sports programmes** aimed at tackling serious youth violence, anti-social behaviour and inequalities.

He also set up a pan-Cheshire sports partnership to better equip children with 'purposeful activity' to reduce serious violence and exploitation. As well as this, he co-chairs the national sports violence partnership

In March he launched his **ex-offenders scheme**, working with probation, the Department for Work and Pension (DWP) and businesses in Cheshire to get those on probation into meaningful employment. By the end of the calendar year, he will have matched the first **100 people** with new careers.

Reduce crime

Action that counts

At the start of his term, he announced £1m funding he had secured from the Government to deliver **extra 'hot spot' patrols in areas across Cheshire**, to tackle anti-social behaviour.

8
hotspots
targeted

10,573
patrol hours

68
arrests

208
stop searches

10 firearms seized

As well as commissioning services for victims, Dan Price also commissions services to help prevent crime. One of these is **Queensberry AP** which delivers youth violence and exploitation intervention, particularly around county lines drug supply, working directly with young people and families.

1:1
school
interventions

164
Young people

28
schools and **249**
young people reached

1:1
mentoring with high
risk young people



EVERY 30 SECONDS

In the UK a domestic abuse related call
is made to the police

#LoveShouldNotHurt



Tackling domestic abuse

Domestic abuse makes up 19% of all recorded crime in Cheshire*.

Dan Price secured £1.4m in funding from the Home Office during his first year in office, one of the highest amounts in the country. This was put into the following key areas:

CARA (Cautioning and Relationship Abuse), targeting domestic abuse offenders who meet specific criteria to be issued with a conditional caution. Domestic abuse workers have been deployed in custody suites encouraging perpetrators to engage with behavioural change programmes.

Engage and Reset - This intervention initiative delivered two perpetrator programmes one which engaged the whole family in a behaviour change programme and the other aimed at young people who are displaying problematic behaviours towards parents. The programmes have seen almost **3,000 people engaged** with support between April 2024 and March 2025.

During 24-25, Dan Price has been working on a multi-agency pilot focussed on Halton, where the issue of domestic abuse is the second highest in the country. This will aim to reduce reoffending, make victims and children safer and support families to stay together, where appropriate.

*For the 12 months to end of September 2024

Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee

Dan Price promised more boots on the ground and he's delivering.

In January it was announced that Cheshire would receive £3m to boost neighbourhood policing. As a result, **48 more officers** will be deployed in the county.

In addition, in his Police and Crime plan, he promised to provide a named contact, either police officer or PCSO, for an area contactable through a direct email address. 2025 will see this going live through the Cheshire Police website.

Leading on stalking prevention

Cheshire records an average of **10 stalking offences a day**, but it also leads the country in charge rates. The Constabulary's **Harm Reduction Unit**, funded by Dan Price, is setting the standard, and as a result, **Jess Phillips**, Minister for Safeguarding and Violence Against Women and Girls visited to hear first-hand about its success.



Scrutiny and accountability

As Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, Dan Price works on behalf of the public to make sure Cheshire Police is delivering the high standards it expects and deserves.

Arrangements	Purpose	Activity	More information
Public Scrutiny Board	The main 'holding the force to account' meeting with the PCC and Force Senior Leadership Team.	Regular meetings, up to 10 a year, held in public. Recorded and published online.	www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk/what-the-commissioner-does/scrutiny/scrutiny-board
Joint Audit Advisory Committee	Provides assurance to the PCC and Chief Constable on the effectiveness of the governance, risk management and internal control arrangements.	The Committee meets a minimum of four times a year with timings determined by the deadlines for publishing a draft and final statement of accounts.	www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk/commissioner-and-office/transparency-and-information/accounts-and-audit/joint-audit-advisory-committee
Joint Management Board (JMB)	<p>A joint governance arrangement which enables the PCC and Chief Constable to make decisions of significant public interest regarding policing, crime and community safety.</p> <p>The PCC may also take management decisions outside of such meetings.</p>	JMB is held monthly, and the decisions that have been made can be found online.	www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk/what-the-commissioner-does/making-key-decisions
Police and Crime Panel	<p>Provides checks and balances in relation to the performance of the Commissioner.</p> <p>The panel comprises 10 local councillors reflecting the political makeup of Cheshire's four Local Authorities, along with three independent co-opted members.</p>	The panel is administered by Cheshire East Council, with all agendas, webcasts and correspondence with the PCC publicly available. It is meeting with the PCC around six times a year as well as additional informal meetings.	www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk/what-the-commissioner-does/scrutiny/cheshire-police-and-crime-panel www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/your_council/cheshire-police-and-crime-panel.aspx
Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB)	Brings together criminal justice organisations at police force area level to support joint working and improve services.	Meetings of the Board are held quarterly.	
One-to-One meetings with the Chief Constable	Enables the PCC to undertake a regular dialogue with the Chief Constable to discuss strategic matters and current issues.	Meetings are held weekly.	
Dealing with complaints, including complaints against Chief Constable	The PCC is responsible for handling and recording complaints against the Chief Constable. Should any complaint require investigation, this will be a matter for the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC).	Police complaint statistics for 2024/25 are available via the IOPC website.	www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk/contact/compliments-and-complaints www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk/contact/police-complaint-review
Out of Court Resolution (OoCR) Panel	Decides whether the method of resolution is appropriate, or if the case would have been better in court. This is based on a review of the information available at the time of the OoCR.	The panel meets quarterly and reviews around 320 cases each year.	www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk/what-the-commissioner-does/scrutiny/out-of-court-disposals-scrutiny-panel
Custody Cohesion	The Custody Cohesion Scrutiny Panel (CCSP) supports the delivery of safe and effective police custody and increases scrutiny, transparency and performance within custody.	The panel meets once a month.	

Ethical policing

The issue of ethics in policing is very important to Dan Price. **The Independent Ethics Panel**, made up of seven members of the public, have considered a wide range of ethical issues in policing, most recently on the use of facial recognition technology, the use of tasers, the decision making around armed deployments and the introduction of AI technology to tackle stalking.

These important discussions enable Dan Price to be better informed on ethical considerations as he delivers his Plan.

Find out more



Our volunteers

Volunteers selflessly give their time to listen to communities, gather views and ensure the Constabulary remains responsive, transparent, accountable and committed to high standards. They cover four areas: Independent Custody Visitors, Call Management Auditors, Police Dog Welfare Visitors and Consultation & Engagement Volunteers.

During the 12-month period of this report, Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs) conducted

138 visits

across Cheshire's three custody suites - Middleswich, Runcorn and Blacon - engaging with

985 detainees

to monitor their welfare and custody conditions.

During the same period,

15 visits

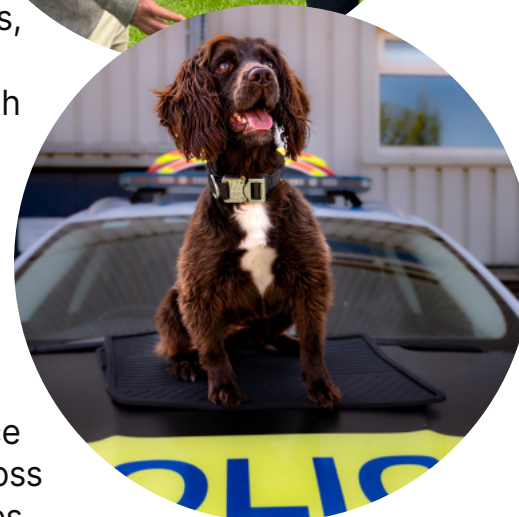
were carried out by Police Dog Welfare Visitors across Cheshire and North Wales, including training sessions and kennel inspections. Volunteers observed and checked a total of **105 dogs**, with **49 individual dogs monitored** - some on multiple occasions.

Additionally,

17 call audits

were completed, reviewing **166 calls**. Of these, **53%** were emergency (999) calls and **47%** were non-emergency (101) police calls.

We also have **volunteers who give their time to the Police Museum in Warrington**. They not only help us preserve the heritage of Cheshire Police but also engage the public in its history.



Strategic Policing Requirement – An eye on the bigger picture

The **Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR)** is the UK's national safety blueprint. It lays out the **biggest threats** we face as a country and every police force needs to be ready to tackle them head-on. These include:

- Violence against women and girls
- Terrorism
- Serious and organised crime
- National cyber incidents
- Child sexual abuse
- Public disorder
- Civil emergencies

Whether you're in a city or a rural town, your local force must be equipped to respond to these national challenges.

When Dan Price crafted the Police and Crime Plan, it wasn't just about local issues. He made sure it aligned with the SPR. That means our force isn't just focused on neighbourhood crime, it's also

geared up to take on the big challenges. These could be cracking down on serious organised crime or standing up for victims of violence. These aren't optional extras, they're **core priorities**.

The PCC keeps a close eye on progress. Through **scrutiny boards** and **performance reviews**, he checks whether the force has the right skills, resources and partnerships to meet national standards. For instance, when unrest broke out over the summer, the PCC wanted to know: **Did we support other forces effectively?** The answer? **Yes, and we did it without dropping the ball locally.**

The SPR is about more than just local policing. It's about making sure our force is **ready, responsive, and resilient**, not just for our communities, but for the country.

Finance: Investing in safety whilst delivering value

2024/25 saw a major boost in funding for policing across Cheshire, £22.2 million more than the previous year. A serious investment in public safety.

Where did the money come from?

- **Council Tax precept:** Households (Band D) contributed an extra **£12.50 per year**, taking their annual payment to £276.94.
- **Central Government funding:** Increased support from Westminster.

Together, this brought the total budget to **£288.728 million.**

Smart spending in tough times

With inflation biting and demands growing more complex, the pressure was on to make every pound count. The Chief Constable needed the right resources, not just to protect Cheshire, but to meet national commitments too.

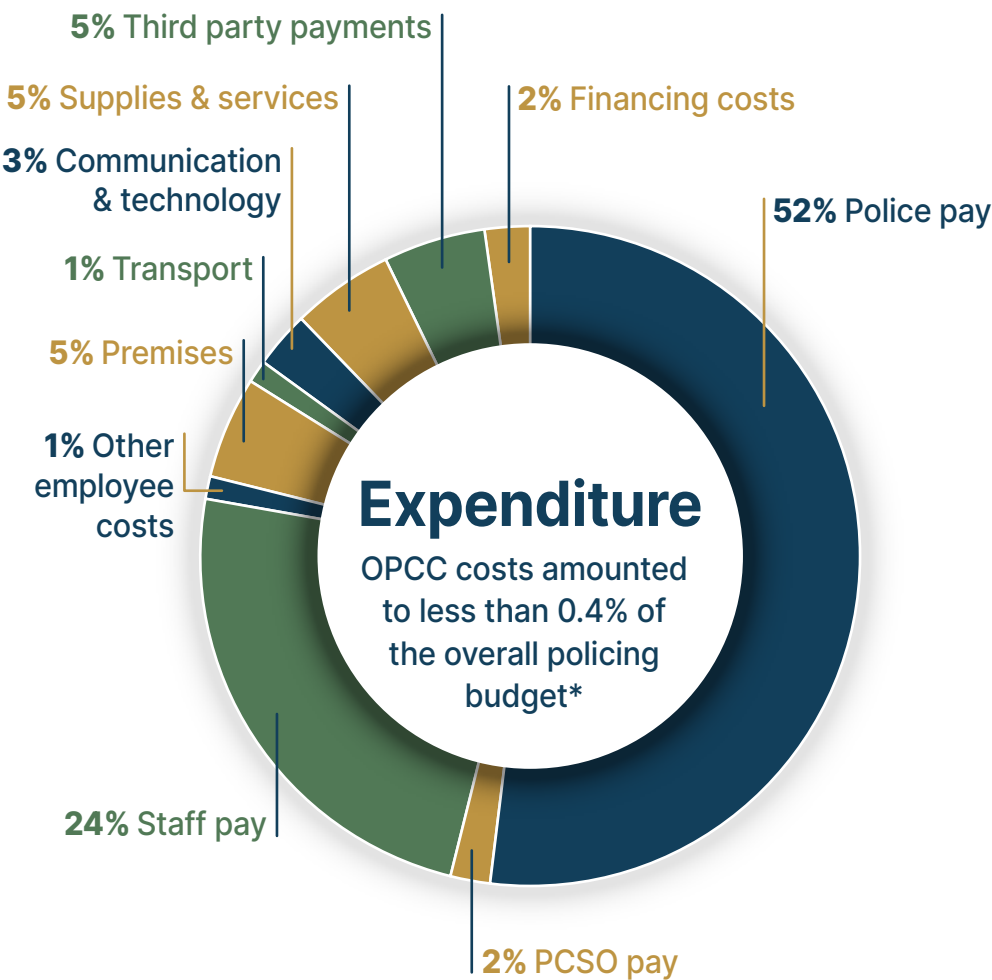
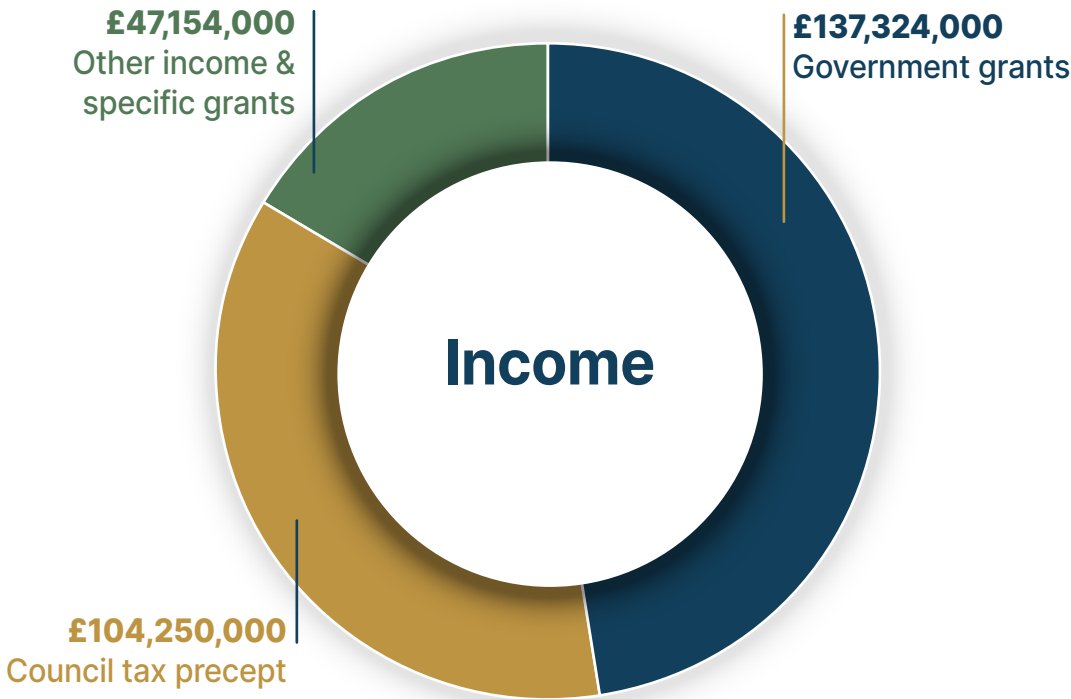
Serious scrutiny was applied to every part of the Constabulary's operations to make sure it was:

- Efficient
- Effective
- Accountable

Savings were found and reserves were reviewed and released where appropriate. This resulted in a strong, maintained service without putting unnecessary strain on taxpayers.

More officers. More visibility

Thanks to the Police Uplift Programme, Cheshire hit its target of **300 new officers** and added 15 extra in 2023/24 and a further 15 in 2024/25 with extra grant funding. That means police numbers are now at their highest in the county.



*Compared to 0.7% under the previous Police Authority.



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