THREE RIVERS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Three Rivers House
Northway
Rickmansworth
Herts WD3 1RL

CONNECTING THREE RIVERS
(FORMERLY LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SAFETY BOARD)

NOTICE AND AGENDA

For a meeting to be held on Wednesday, 18 March 2026 at 10.00 am in Penn Chamber, Three Rivers House, Rickmansworth, WD3 1RL.

Members of the Connecting Three Rivers (formerly Local Strategic Partnership and Community Safety Board):-

Councillors:

Stephen Giles-Medhurst OBE (Chair)
Sarah Nelmes   Steve Drury

Joanne Wagstaffe, Chief Executive
10 March 2026

1.	**WELCOME, INTRODUCTION & APOLOGIES**	
2.	**MINUTES & ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS CONNECTING THREE RIVERS MEETING**	(Pages 5 - 8)
3.	**LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION**	

Presentation by the Head of Strategy & Partnerships

4.	**HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY**	

Presentation by Inspector Ben Harper

5.	**SOUTH WEST HERTS HEALTH & CARE PARTNERSHIP**	(Pages 9 - 12)

Presentation by Rosalind Nerio

6.	**RESILIENCE WORKSHOP**	(Pages 13 - 16)

Workshop followed by a break.

    A.   What specific gaps do you see in current financial resilience support systems to prevent use of crisis services?

    B.   Thinking of the fund's priorities and our gaps, what

could we co-design that strengthens resilience locally?

7. **HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S CORPORATE PLAN**

   Presentation by Paraic McKenna

8. **THRIVE HOMES AND WATFORD COMMUNITY HOUSING UPDATE**

   Presentation by Paul Richmond

9. **UPDATES FROM THE COUNTY COMMUNITY SAFETY UNIT AND THE OFFICE OF THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER** (Pages 17 - 28)

   Presentations by Michael Nadasdy (CCSU) and Eleanor Makoni (OPCC)

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

11. **NEXT MEETING DATES**

    18 June 2026
    16 September 2026
    10 December 2026
    18 March 2027

General Enquiries: Please contact the Committee Team at
committeeteam@threerivers.gov.uk

THREE RIVERS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Connecting Three Rivers
(formerly Local Strategic Partnership and Community Safety Board)
MINUTES

Of a meeting held in the Penn Chamber, Three Rivers House, Rickmansworth, on Thursday, 11 December 2025 from 10.00 am - 11.23 am.

Present: Councillors

Sarah Nelmes (Chair)
Steve Drury

TRDC officers in attendance:

Joanne Wagstaffe, Chief Executive
Rebecca Young, Head of Strategy & Partnerships
Shivani Davé, Partnerships & Inclusion Manager
Michelle Wright, Community Safety & Safeguarding Manager, Prevent Lead
Anita Hibbs, Committee Officer

External in attendance:

Councillor Tim Williams, Hertfordshire County Council
Peta Mettam, Citizens Advice Service Three Rivers
Ben Harper, Hertfordshire Constabulary
Michael Nadasdy, County Community Safety Unit (CCSU)
Eleanor Makoni, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)
Enoch Kanagaraj, One Vision
Jim Moran, Herts Fire & Rescue Services
Bob Jones, Watford & Three Rivers Trust
Saffron Johnson, Watford & Three Rivers Trust
Danielle Levy, Herts MIND Network
Brad Hughes, SW Herts Secondary Schools
Mika Saha, Home Group
Paul Richmond, Thrive Homes
Caoimhe Walker, Watford FC
Peter Cogan, Watford Community Housing

29   WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Paraic McKenna, Elizabeth Borg, Hannah Marsh, Rob Smith, Iris Bangs, Shirish Chauhan.

Attendees were welcomed to the meeting and new members Mika Saha, Eleanor Makoni and Caoimhe Walker were introduced.

Bob Jones informed the group that he will be retiring and Saffron Johnson will be taking over at Watford & Three Rivers Trust.

30   MINUTES & ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS CONNECTING THREE RIVERS MEETING

The minutes of the Connecting Three Rivers meeting, held on 25 September 2025 were confirmed as a correct record.

31   LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

The Head of Strategy & Partnerships delivered a presentation on the current status of the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Hertfordshire. The formal submission of the proposal was completed on 28 November. The next phase involves awaiting government review and consultation expected in the spring, with a decision anticipated in the summer.

The Partnerships & Inclusion Manager delivered a presentation on community empowerment with a focus on strengthening local communities. Key points include community development, reducing health inequalities, encouraging collaboration between businesses and the voluntary sector.

A board member raised concerns about NHS warnings related to integrated care and emphasised the need to avoid duplication of efforts while enhancing collaboration with the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and local partners. In response, officers highlighted the Council's current involvement with the integrated neighbourhood team and the uncertainty around future unitary models, noting that health and wellbeing priorities remain central to their strategic objectives.

The conversation also addressed areas lacking town and parish councils, neighbourhood committees, and the topic of Devolution; aiming to establish a single strategic mayor for the county. This change would impact various services; including the fire service and police. There was an emphasis on the importance of timing the devolution with structural changes to avoid inefficiencies, such as transferring services multiple times. The timeline for these changes is tentatively set around April 2028.

Action – Rebecca Young, more information on Devolution to be included in the next update.

32   HERTFORDSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

The Station Commander at Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service provided an update on fire incidents in Three Rivers from April to November. Key points include; increase in deliberate fires and primary fires and recent concerns about fire attendance times falling below targets, but the actual shortfall has been only by seconds in most cases.

A question was raised regarding deliberate vehicle fires in Chorleywood and Sarratt areas. The Station Commander explained that while there is an increase in such incidents, the overall numbers are not as severe as in some other areas.

33   COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND ACTION PLAN

The Community Safety & Safeguarding Manager delivered a presentation highlighting the strategic priorities and collaborative efforts undertaken by the DSE and its partners to address civic crimes in Three Rivers.

A question was raised regarding a police initiative involving cadets conducting vehicle security checks, specifically on unlocked cars. It was confirmed that approximately, 200 vehicles were checked and 10-15% of them were unlocked.

Caoimhe Walker informed the group about a newly funded programme, aimed at secondary school age boys, addressing violence, with football sessions and educational content focused on consent, healthy relationships and confidence.

34 CONNECTING THREE RIVERS FUND

The Partnerships & Inclusion Manager provided an update.

Key funded initiatives include Mission Employable, New Hope, and Rennie Grove Hospice's projects.

There were two proposed amendments related to the community and health projects; firstly, the GUCE application, which requires and additional £841. The proposal is to seek the board's approval to cover this gap in the funding from the remaining Connecting Three Rivers budget. Secondly, the current 4 bi-weekly sessions are proposed to be adjusted to a 12-month delivery period.

The board agreed both amendments by general assent.

Action – Shivani Davé to promote C3R funding.

35 PARTNER UPDATES

Mika Saha from Home Group mentioned an event called Community Engagement Days on 9 April in Oxhey, and invited attendees to join the event.

Enoch Kanagaraj from One Vision mentioned the launch of Herts Together on 10 February, and offered to share further details of the event.

Michael Nadasdy from CCSU provided an update highlighting a report on violence against women and girls is expected to be published on 10 December. This report will soon be distributed to community safety managers alongside with a refreshed strategic document.

36 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items of other business.

37 NEXT MEETING DATES

18 March 2026
18 June 2026
16 September 2026
10 December 2026
18 March 2027

CHAIR

This page is intentionally left blank

South and West Herts Health and Care Partnership

South and West Hertfordshire Health and Care Partnership Delivery plan, 2026/27

1. Introduction

The HCP's vision is to be a 'single team' responsible for planning, improving and delivering population-based health and care services for the people of South West Hertfordshire ('SWH'), delivered by via a neighbourhood working model. The HCP has made significant progress towards achieving this vision; however it is still in the early stages of formation and continues to evolve and embed working practices that will enable effective transformation of services that respond to our population's health and care needs.

The progress the HCP has made in both delivering transformational change that improves health and care outcomes for our population and embedding the structures and processes transact these changes has been enabled through strong relationships which have empowered individuals working beyond their 'day jobs'. Furthermore the HCP has taken an approach of 'form follows function'. It has evolved and tested working practices and then designed organisational structures that ensure the governance is fit-for-purpose and enables safe and effective decision-making. For instance the HCP's Finance & Commissioning and Quality & Performance Committees operated in shadow form for several months prior to enacting the Host Provider model and phase 1 delegation.

The HCP will be continuing to evolve and over the next 12 months we anticipate that the HCP will:

- **Deliver our clinical and care transformation priorities** of coordination of care, access and prevention which will further improve care for local residents, demonstrating the impact of partnership-working

- **Maturing our neighbourhoods** to move from formation to delivery, ensuring they have the requisite skills, capacity and cultures to lead and deliver change

- **Embedding the necessary structural and process enablers and tools** to deliver these changes
- **Continue to evolve the delegation model** by extending the scope of delegation and continually reviewing the governance processes to ensure that they remain fit for purpose, enabling appropriate financial flows, effective decision-making and reflect the HCP and ICB's risk appetite.
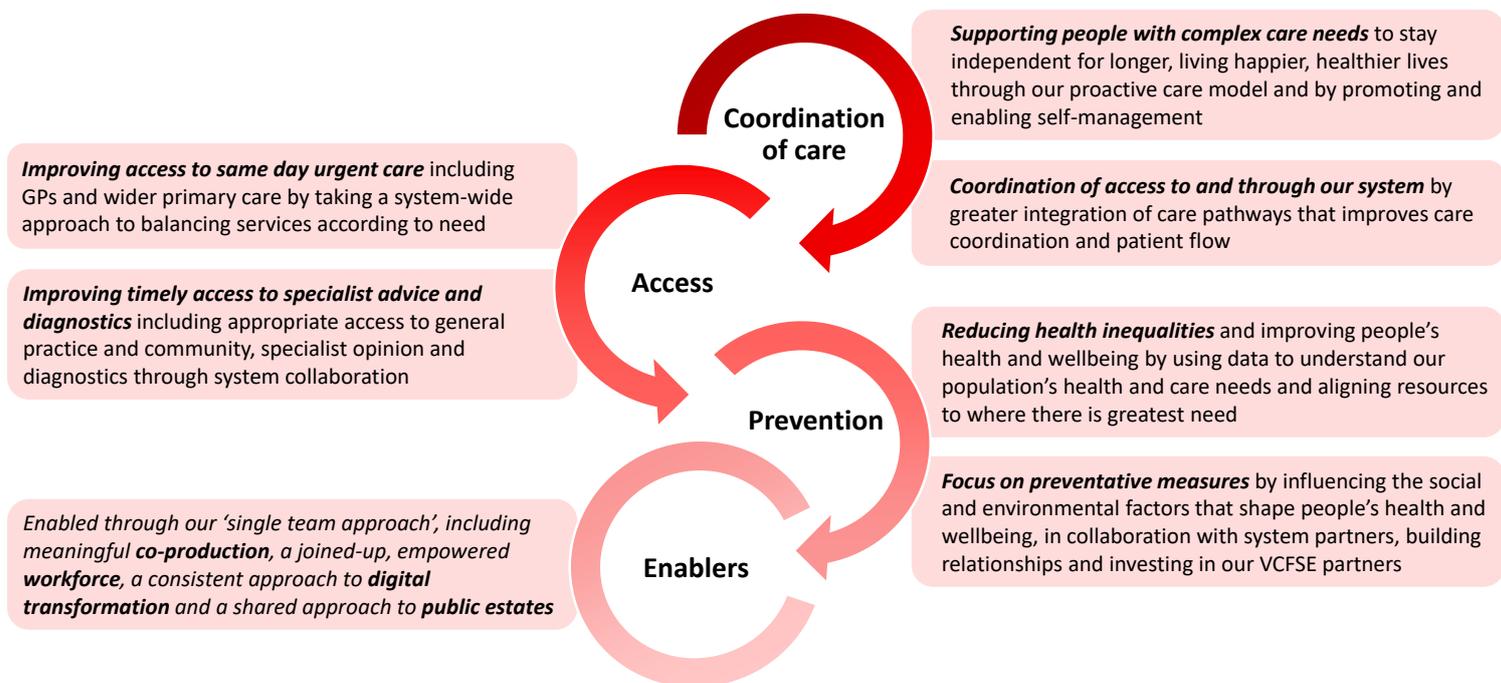
2. Clinical and Care Transformation Priorities

The HCP's vision sets out a core purpose of planning, improving and delivering population-based health and care services for the population that we serve. In doing this we deliver the following objectives:

- Our people experience **joined-up, person-centred care** that meets their needs and preferences.

- We **reduce health inequalities** in access, experience, and outcomes

- We use our **resources collectively and efficiently** to maximise health and wellbeing outcomes for our population

- **Staff and partners feel connected, valued, and empowered** to deliver integrated, high-quality care

- The framework for delivering these objectives is set out on the following page:

Figure 1: The Framework for delivering the HCP's objectives

Supporting people with complex care needs to stay independent for longer, living happier, healthier lives through our proactive care model and by promoting and enabling self-management

Improving access to same day urgent care including GPs and wider primary care by taking a system-wide approach to balancing services according to need

Coordination of access to and through our system by greater integration of care pathways that improves care coordination and patient flow

Improving timely access to specialist advice and diagnostics including appropriate access to general practice and community, specialist opinion and diagnostics through system collaboration

Reducing health inequalities and improving people's health and wellbeing by using data to understand our population's health and care needs and aligning resources to where there is greatest need

Focus on preventative measures by influencing the social and environmental factors that shape people's health and wellbeing, in collaboration with system partners, building relationships and investing in our VCFSE partners

Enabled through our 'single team approach', including meaningful **co-production**, a joined-up, empowered **workforce**, a consistent approach to **digital transformation** and a shared approach to **public estates**

The HCP has developed the following programme to deliver these priorities:

Workstream	Description	Anticipated outcomes
Coordination of care		
Frailty	Ongoing development of our proactive care model and continued development of the HCP's frailty transformation programme	• Improved delivery of proactive care leading to reduction in use of NEL acute services • Increase adherence to people's wishes regarding their care • Proactive medication reviews supporting a reduction in inappropriate prescribing • A greater proportion of people have the right support to reduce their risk of falls • Enhanced use of advanced care planning
Transition	Closing the gap in service provision for CYP services to adult services	• Increase in annual health checks • coordination of care for speciality pathways • Reduced admissions
Care Coordination Hub	Deliver a care coordination hub at Watford that brings together care coordination functions	• Supporting more of our population to receive urgent care in the right place, the first time, including as close to their usual place of residence as possible
Transfer of Care	Improve the transfer of care for patients who are exiting the acute hospital and those exiting rehab and DTA services	• Supporting population return to usual place of residence after acute care • Access to timely therapy support upon discharge to usual place of residence
Access		
Same day urgent care	Develop a neighbourhood-based model for same day urgent care	• Improved visibility of same day urgent care performance
Elective care	End-to-end pathways for a sub-set of clinical pathways that ensure timely access to appropriate care	• Improved use of local capacity • Improved direct access for patients
Prevention		

Our vision is **excellent patient care, together**, our values are be **empowered**, **compassionate**, **professional** and **inclusive**

Anchor programme	Fully mobilise the HCP's anchor programme	• VCFSE organisations engaged as equal system partners • Services designed around lived experience, particularly underserved groups • Stronger, more sustainable community infrastructure
Screening programme	Enhancing screening provision and uptake across a range of conditions	• Increased uptake of screening • Increased rate of vaccinations • Increased proportion of conditions diagnosed at an early stage
Healthy lifestyles	Support individuals by promoting healthy lifestyles and enhancing wellbeing	• Improved prevention uptake in groups with historically low engagement • Reduction in avoidable deterioration and emergency admissions

3. Maturing our neighbourhoods

The HCP has developed a neighbourhood maturity matrix to assess our neighbourhoods' current maturity. neighbourhood has used the maturity matrix to undertake a maturity assessment. This assessment provided a baseline for each neighbourhood, enabling them to set their ambition for 2026/27.

Each neighbourhood has used the outputs of their maturity assessment to develop a neighbourhood development plan which sets out how each neighbourhood will achieve their ambition of neighbourhood maturity in 2026/27. Common themes from across all four neighbourhoods include:

- **Governance and leadership**: Defining roles and responsibilities through developing Terms of Reference templates, aligning neighbourhood governance to HCP processes, with clearly defined reporting mechanisms and tools and continuing to develop the neighbourhood clinical lead roles and the neighbourhood integration lead roles to establish mature and complementary ways of working

- **Neighbourhood team composition**: Defining a consistent integrated neighbourhood team model with dedicated resources from primary care, community, mental health, social care and VCFSE partners; clarifying team functioning within the neighbourhood and its relationships with teams working across the HCP, in line with the emerging HCP neighbourhood operating model

- **Culture development**: Developing team charters and delivering culture shaping workshops and events to embed collaborative working, shared values, communication and language

- **Estates mapping and strategy**: Whist this work features in each neighbourhood's individual development plan, the work will be undertaken collectively across the four neighbourhood. The Neighbourhood Integration Leads will ensure that work is shared to avoid duplication or variation in approach.

4. Enablers

The HCP has identified several enabling workstreams that will enable the HCP to establish the structures and processes that embed neighbourhood working as our delivery approach and also enable the effective delivery of our transformation programme and neighbourhood delivery plans.

Neighbourhood operating model: Pivotal to developing neighbourhood working is the development of our neighbourhood operating model which enables the HCP to orientate our services around communities within our neighbourhoods in order to deliver coordinated services to patients that make best use of our resources.

Our vision is **excellent patient care, together**, our values are to be **empowered**, **compassionate**, **professional** and **inclusive**

Estates utilisation: The HCP recognises that there are opportunities to use existing estate to enable better coordination of care through co-location. Furthermore the HCP will also need to develop neighbourhood health centres, as described in the 10 Year Plan.

Data and digital transformation: This is a key enabler of system integration, improving patient outcomes and operational efficiency. Access to data and information enables us to understand the populations we serve and how we provide care to them and much of our transformation programme is predicated on digital transformation.

Workforce: The HCP will be unable to deliver the proposed changes without the leadership and transformational capacity and capability to affect change and embed within day-to-day working to ensure sustainable delivery.

Governance and oversight: As the HCP develops and evolves it is necessary to ensure that the governance and oversight within the HCP remains fit-for-purpose.

Anchor Programme: The Anchor programme, which is described within our transformational workstreams is a key enabler to building relationships with, and stimulating the VCFSE sector to become mature and well-resourced delivery partners.

5. Delegation

The HCP's long term vision, and end point of delegation will be for WHTH to move to full capitation as part of an Integrated Health Organisation model which would see WHTH holding formal accountability for all services provided to the population of SWH. In progressing towards this long-term vision, the HCP will continue to take a phased approach.

The next phase of delegation will include:

1. Establishing nominal risk share arrangements for delegated services, including agreeing and implementing a shared risk corridor between WHTH and the ICB
2. WHTH assuming delegated commissioning responsibility for remaining adult and children community services and UEC contracts
3. Establishing a management agreement which sets out the roles and responsibilities for WHTH, as host provider, and the HCP in relation to primary care and prescribing
4. Clarifying WHTH, as host provider's, responsibility in relation to joint commissioning (e.g. for the BCF)

Executive Lead: Toby Hyde
Position: Chief Strategy and Collaboration Officer
Date: 05 March 2026

Our vision is **excellent patient care, together**, our values are to be **empowered**, **compassionate**, **professional** and **inclusive**

4

Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF) Guidance - Hertfordshire County Council Allocation

Overall Aim of the CRF

To create a **sustainable, coordinated, cash first welfare safety net** that:

- Responds quickly to financial shocks
- Reduces long term hardship
- Strengthens community support systems
- Provides a consistent and resilient local welfare landscape across England

Allocation

£9.1m per year for 3 years. Funding increases to £11.4m in year 3 (28/29) due to the addition of Discretionary Housing Payments post Local Government Reorganisation.

Last years Household support Fund allocated £10.8m, a 15% reduction and with an 11% reduction the year before, Hertfordshire County Council has seen this funding reduced by 26% across the last 2 years, losing £3.2m of funding.

Timeline

March – Hertfordshire County Council are in the process of gaining agreement for allocation plans proposed. Once agreed there will be further communication with Districts and Boroughs.

Purpose of the CRF

The Crisis and Resilience Fund provides multi-year, ring-fenced funding to English local authorities to:

1. Support low income households facing financial shocks.
2. Build individual and community financial resilience, reducing long term crisis need.
3. Strengthen local welfare ecosystems through coordinated partnerships.

It replaces:

- Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs) from April 2026.
- Elements of the Household Support Fund.

Funding is delivered via the Local Government Finance Settlement.

CRF Structure: Four Required Delivery Strands

1. Crisis Payments

- Cash first grants to meet urgent, short-term needs such as:

    - Food, hygiene essentials, utilities
    - Essential furniture and appliances
    - Travel costs, digital connectivity
    - Emergencies such as homelessness, domestic abuse or loss of income

- Should be person centred, needs based, and available year round.
- No prescriptive eligible item list; LA discretion applies.
- Not a substitute for ongoing income.
- Must use at least two application routes (online, phone, face to face).
- Warm referrals to support services are required.

2. Housing Payments (Stays with District and Borough Councils until year 3/LGR)

Replaces DHPs but maintains similar rules.

- For people entitled to Housing Benefit or UC Housing Costs who face a shortfall.
- Can cover rent shortfalls, deposits, rent in advance, removals.
- Cannot be awarded to people with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF).
- Phased transition:
    - Years 1–2: same distribution model as DHPs including districts.
    - Year 3: Only Unitary Authorities + applicable County Councils receive allocations.

3. Resilience Services

Funding for programmes that reduce future crisis demand, this is the priority in Hertfordshire. Examples include:

- Debt, welfare, energy and budgeting advice
- Income maximisation (benefit checks, employment support)
- Access to affordable credit, saving products, insurance
- Community hubs, digital inclusion interventions Authorities must show how services achieve outcomes such as:
- Reduced emergency food need
- Reduced priority debt
- Increased incomes/savings
- Reduced repeat crisis applications

4. Community Coordination

Funding to improve the **local support ecosystem**, including:

- Partnership building and shared directories
- Referral pathways across statutory, VCS and community partners
- Co-location of services
- Data sharing and mapping of need
- Multi-agency early intervention models

Key Delivery Principles

CRF schemes must be:

- Person centred
- Needs based
- Holistic
- Trauma informed
- Built on warm referrals and a "no wrong door" approach

Accessibility must be ensured through:

- Multiple application channels
- Formats such as Easy Read / large print
- Support for digital exclusion, disabilities, terminal illness, carers

Eligibility and NRPF

- Crisis Payments: Possible for NRPF households only via alternative legal powers (Children Act, Care Act, NHS Act).
- Housing Payments: Not available to NRPF households.

Applications & Targeting

- Applications accepted all year.
- Third parties (e.g. VCS organisations) may apply on behalf of residents.
- LAs should also proactively target vulnerable groups using data (e.g. UC data share).

Funding, Admin & Compliance

- LAs control how funding is split between strands (except Housing Payment minimum expectations).
- Admin costs allowed, but must be reasonable and proportionate.
- Funding must not duplicate existing central government funded activity.
- Strong fraud prevention and due diligence required.
- Unspent or misused funds may be recovered.

Reporting & Evaluation

LAs must:

- Submit annual delivery plans
- Provide six monthly MI returns
- Track core outcome indicators
- Participate in national DWP evaluation
- Keep an audit trail for all spending

CCSU Monthly RAG Update

	February 2026
Community Safety & ASB	Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) JSNA The CCSU are currently refreshing the previous VAWG needs assessment published in 2021, which includes rerunning a public survey, in collaboration with Public Health and the Strategic Partnerships team. The survey included some additional questions this time around misogyny and views on priorities for the new Hertfordshire VAWG Strategy. The survey closed on Friday 19th September with a total of 3,358 responses and results are currently being analysed. The final needs assessment has now been finalised and published and was presented to the Domestic Abuse and VAWG Executive Board in December. Findings from the JSNA and the survey were also be presented at the White Ribbon event on Wednesday 10th December. The full document, including a report of the survey findings, can be found on the Hertfordshire JSNA website. If you would like to request a presentation of the findings from this work, please email vicki.doyle@hertfordshire.gov.uk. Community safety and health intelligence products The CCSU work regularly with Public Health to produce joint intelligence products where crossovers between community safety and health exist (for example, mental health and substance misuse are key risk factors for criminality and exploitation). Information and updates on newly published and upcoming JSNA products can be seen in the latest bi-monthly JSNA newsletter link below: JSNA newsletter (December edition) Completed JSNA products are usually published on the Hertfordshire Public Health JSNA website. If you would like any additional information on these, please email vicki.doyle@hertfordshire.gov.uk
Drugs, Alcohol and Criminal Justice	*All detainees that are arrested (or charged) for a trigger offence for the second time in a 12-month period or are otherwise targeted through authorisation by the duty inspector, will be required to undertake an oral swab test for Class A drugs such as heroin and/or crack cocaine. Following a positive test, the offender is legally required to attend an initial required assessment (RA) & follow up assessment (FA).* If you have any queries, please contact Alex Kweller at alex.kweller@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Since October 2020 the following number of tests have been carried out across Stevenage & Hatfield Custody suites:

CSP	Positive	Negative	Refused	Total
Broxbourne	219	228	1	**448**
Dacorum	573	467	2	**1042**
East Hertfordshire	223	220	0	**443**
Hertsmere	228	292	0	**520**
North Hertfordshire	217	214	0	**431**
St Albans	319	287	1	**607**
Stevenage	472	294	4	**770**
Three Rivers	168	156	3	**327**
Watford	495	333	4	**832**
Welwyn Hatfield	438	443	7	**888**
No fixed abode	253	105	22	**380**
Out of County	1938	2915	19	**4872**
Total	**5620**	**6055**	**63**	**11738**

Drugs, Alcohol and Criminal Justice

Continued

Drug & Alcohol Strategy

The Drug & Alcohol Strategy 2025-30 has been published and is available to view at https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/media-library/documents/public-health/hertfordshire-drug-and-alcohol-strategy-2025-30.pdf .

CCSU will be leading on shaping the 'Enforcement' objectives of the strategy, with an early focus on cuckooing. A cuckooing working group will be established to help standardise the cuckooing response countywide. To assist with this process, CCSU will refresh the 2022 cuckooing intelligence briefing (see below).

If your CSP would like a presentation on the strategy, please contact michael.nadasdy@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Drug and Alcohol-Related Deaths

Following a year pilot of the DARD surveillance system, funding for the system will conclude in March due to limited input into the system. A user group took place in December with partners inputting into the system and it was subsequently agreed that the system will be replaced with a partnership data collection return to be collated by the CCSU, similar to the A&E Violent Assault Dataset. The aim is for this data to feed into a partnership dashboard on drug-related deaths which will also link in with the Coroners Audit, Local Drug Information System (LDIS), ambulance data and hospital admissions data.

The CCSU and Public Health are now starting work on a Drug-Related Deaths JSNA Briefing. This will include research and findings from multiple data sources including the Coroner's Audit, ONS data and hospital admissions. If you would like any further information about this, please contact vicki.doyle@hertfordshire.gov.uk.

	Drugs and Alcohol needs assessments

The existing Drug and Alcohol JSNAs have now been refreshed through a series of working groups and have now been shared with all CSMs. The recommendations from the JSNAs will be monitored alongside the D&A Strategy and action plan.

If you would like to know more about this, please email vicki.doyle@hertfordshire.gov.uk.

Cuckooing JSNA Briefing

The CCSU have now completed the refresh of the Cuckooing JSNA Briefing to support ongoing countywide work around cuckooing, including a summary of findings from the survey completed by all districts. The document has been circulated to all CSMs and is available to view here. The briefing makes six recommendations based on the evidence in the report.

If you would like to know more about this, please email vicki.doyle@hertfordshire.gov.uk or Michael.nadasdy@hertfordshire.gov.uk |
| **Hate Crime**

Serious Violence | Hate Crime

The Hate Crime Partnership Board (HCPB) continues to be held quarterly and is chaired independently by Sir Leigh Lewis. At the meeting in November, we were honoured to be joined by Rabbi Kett who spoke about the concerns and worries in his community. If anyone would like to attend this meeting on a one-off basis to see what the board does, please contact Kate Moore on kate.moore@hertfordshire.gov.uk

The Hate Crime Strategy will soon be refreshed after – the HCPB will be holding an away day and using the joint strategic Needs Assessment as its basis. The JSNA can be found here: Hate Crime JSNA.

Serious Violence Duty

The Serious violence action group is holding an away day at the end of February to review the previous 5 year strategy and plan for the new strategy using the Joint Strategic needs assessment as its basis. The JSNA can be found here: Serious Violence JSNA.

The Youth Endowment Fund has awarded Hertfordshire a small amount of funding to join their Area Leaders Programme. This will allow Hertfordshire to access good practice across the country and conduct a mapping exercise, to better understand the work that is in place around serious violence. This work has commenced and has focussed on the Young Futures project, which is taking place in Dacorum, allowing time for mapping of services and launching the panel. |

This page is intentionally left blank

Welcome to **February's** RAG Briefing note from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

This briefing covers:

· **Live Facial Recognition**

· **Serious Violence**

· **Winter of Action – results**

· **Grant Funding: Innovation and Targeted Interventions**

· **Accountability and Performance Meetings (APM)**

· **Countywide Stop and Search data**

<u>**Live Facial Recognition**</u>

LFR is a crime-fighting tool designed to support police forces in locating wanted offenders and safeguarding vulnerable people. The technology compares a live camera feed of faces against a predetermined watchlist of offenders in real time, generating an alert when a possible match is found. Hertfordshire Constabulary will be deploying the use of LFR in Hertfordshire, following a trial in December 2025.

We are bringing together community leaders and stakeholders to explain how the technology works and discuss its intended used. The event will be chaired by Jonathan Ash-Edwards, Police and Crime Commissioner, and joined by colleagues from Hertfordshire Constabulary.

· Date: **Tuesday 24th February**

· Time: **15:00-16:00** · Registration link: <u>Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams</u>

You can also pre-submit questions for the presenters to address in the meeting by using this link: <u>Live Facial Recognition Webinar Question Form</u>

Webinar capacity is limited so entrance to the webinar will be on a first come first served basis, any issues with registration then please respond to this email.

<u>**Winter of Action**</u>

Following the successful **Summer Town Centre initiative**, the PCC supported the '**Winter of Action'** initiative which built on the summer success over the period from **1 December 2025 to 31 January 2026** to support the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee.

Similarly to the Summer Action initiatives **grant funding** was made available to councils, BIDs, and community groups to support local crime prevention initiatives.

Residents invited to shape the programme via a public survey: Winter Town Centres Survey.

The survey's **public safety** results indicate an NPS of more than **+25**, suggesting that residents generally felt safe in their town centres during the winter action initiative.

The survey results show that the most significant concerns for residents are **antisocial behaviour** and **a lack of police presence**. Increasing police visibility in these areas directly addresses these two leading issues and responds to how residents feel.

17% of residents reported noticing either a considerable or a slight change in **police visibility** within the area.

Focus areas for Winter of Action

- **Retail crime**-Heightened risk of shop theft due to busier retail activity.

- **Street Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour**- visible patrols and using enforcement to address persistent issues.

- **Night-time economy safety and VAWG**- disorder because of night-time economy.

Outcomes:

This was deployed across **24 different town centres** located throughout the county. The categories of arrests during the winter action period aligned with the focus areas: retail-related offences, violence-related offences, and sexually- related offences.

- During this period, there were a total of **77 retail related-crime** arrests across the areas of winter action with the largest proportion of arrests occurring in **Welwyn Garden City**, which accounted for **22 arrests**.
- During this period there were a total of **44 violence related-crime** arrests within these town centres.
- Finally, there were also **10 sexually related-crime** arrests that occurred across 4 different locations (Watford, Stevenage St Albans Hatfield Galleria)

Youth Commission on Policing and Crime

The PCC has launched the **Hertfordshire Youth Commission** to engage young people aged 14–25:

- A core panel of up to 25 young people will be trained to gather views from peers across the county.

- **'Big Conversation'** conference took place on the **29th of January** where members of the youth commission produced and showcased a video showcasing their learning and insights on joint enterprise.

- **Focus areas**:

  - Youth safety

  - Reducing youth offending

  - Improving relationships with police

  - Supporting young victims and witnesses

Innovation and Targeted Interventions

- **Noise Camera Pilot** launched in St Albans to tackle illegal street racing and antisocial driving.

  - Acoustic monitoring and camera technology will detect vehicles exceeding noise thresholds.

  - Offenders will receive warnings, with repeat offenders facing enforcement under Section 59.

  - The PCC has committed up **to £23,825** in funding, with additional support from local partners covering ongoing operational costs

- **Fly Tipping Fund** continues to support private landowners, especially farmers, with clean-up and prevention measures of tips on private land.

  - **£16.5k** allocated in 2024/25; further funding committed for 2025/26.

  - In 2025/26, 5 awards have been made in St Albans, East Herts & Hertsmere, totalling over **£7.5k.**

The scheme process is currently being reviewed before a decision on a 2026/27 scheme is made.

Community Safety and Serious Violence Funding

- **£43,000 awarded** to nine local projects addressing:

- ASB prevention

- Violence against women and girls

- 4 courses started as part of the **Aspire Higher Programme** for **30 young males** on Probation with convictions/known intelligence links to carrying or using weapons, involvement in county lines/organised drug supply or exiting organised crime.

- **£675,000 Serious Violence Duty funding** confirmed for 2025/26.

  - Delivered via the County Community Safety Unit Strategic Chairs Board.

  - Supports mentoring-**Herts Sports Partnership/StreetGames** have advertised the wider commissioning opportunity to deliver secondary level opportunities for young people identified at high risk.

  - **Over 30** young people, aged 13+, carrying knives or involved in Serious Violence have started the **YouTurn Futures** structured 12-week intervention plan that is a trauma-informed, relationship-based approach designed to engage vulnerable young people, address the root causes of violent behaviour, and support long-term desistance from crime.

  - **3 secondary level interventions** have started to be delivered to over **30** young people via **the Herts Sports Partnership/StreetGames**-led initiative to support young people/adults identified at high risk. Workforce upskilling, including Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning planned for 7 organisations thus far.

  - **550+** young people, including habitual knife carriers, referred to attend a session where **VR Headsets** are used as a visual/interactive learning tool.

The Home Office has announced funding for the serious violence duty to the PCC for 2026/27. Further details will be provided in due course.

Performance and Accountability

The Police and Crime Commissioner holds monthly Performance and Accountability meetings with the Chief Constable as part of the holding to account. These are live streamed and can be accessed after the meeting via the OPCC website: [Accountability and Performance Meetings](#)

The most recent February APM covered the following topics:

· Live Facial Recognition

· Response Times

· Online Safety Act

· Victims Code of Practice

· Disclosure & Barring Act

Countywide Stop and Search Update

Each RAG plays a key role in reviewing the Stop & Search data, including complaints, for their own district. We hope that sharing data with you will improve transparency about how this coercive power has been used.

The below data covers Stop & Searches undertaken over the last four months, from **30th September 2025 – 31st January 2026** (please note the data is subject to further finalisation).

During this time there has been a 6% increase in the use of Stop & Search compared to the equivalent period of 30th September 2025 – 31st January 2026. Positive outcomes are up 41% and positivity rates are down 0.5%.

There were some local differences in trends.

Use of Stop & Search was up in all 10 CSPs – St Albans (+14%), Hertsmere (+9%), East Herts (+9%), Welwyn Hatfield (+8%), Stevenage (+12%), Watford (+16%), Three Rivers (+6%), Dacorum (+7%), Broxbourne (+7%) and North Herts (+6%)

Similarly, over the same period all CSPs saw increases in their positive outcome rates and arrests in comparison to rates in the previous year:

- In Broxbourne, there was a 46% increase in positive outcome rate the highest out of all the CSPs

- In Stevenage, there was a 36% increase in positive outcome rate, and a 16% increase in arrests.

- In Three Rivers, there was a 45% increase in positive outcome rate and 16% increase in arrests.

- In North Herts, there was a 35% increase in the positive outcome rate. Although it remains the lowest in the county, it also recorded one of the highest increases in arrest rates, at 19%.

If you have any comments or questions about the data or information provided in this briefing, please email: Eleanor.makoni@herts-pcc.gov.uk
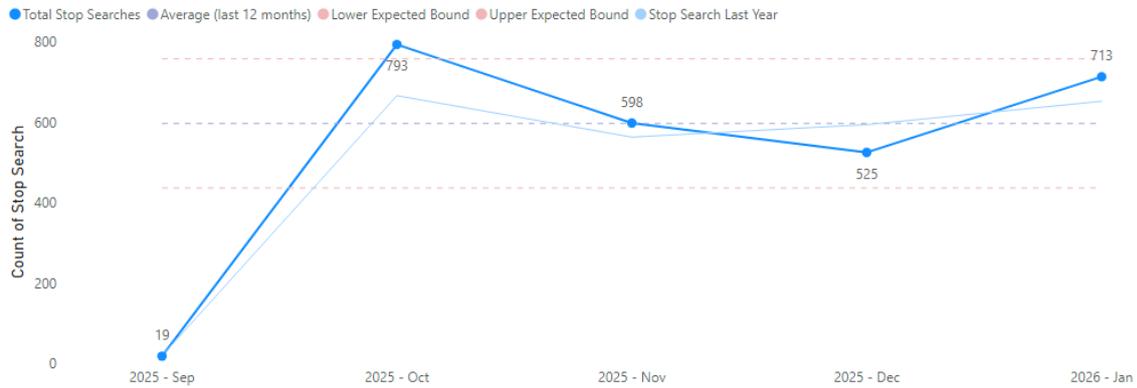
Police & Crime Commissioner FOR HERTFORDSHIRE

Stop Search by Month

Figure 1 – Stop & Search volume by month in Hertfordshire, for period September 25 – January 26
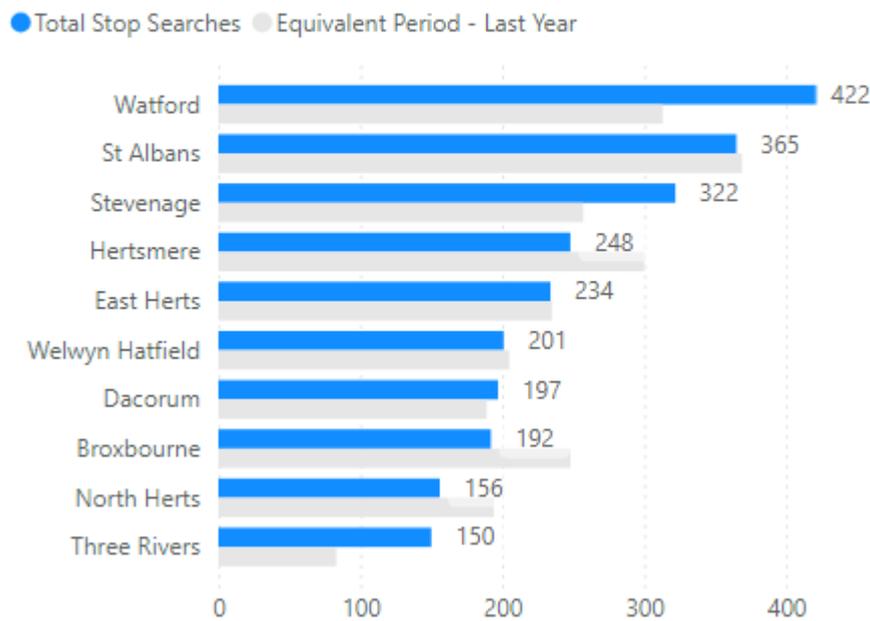

Figure 2 – Stop & Search volume by district in Hertfordshire, for period September 2025 – January 2026
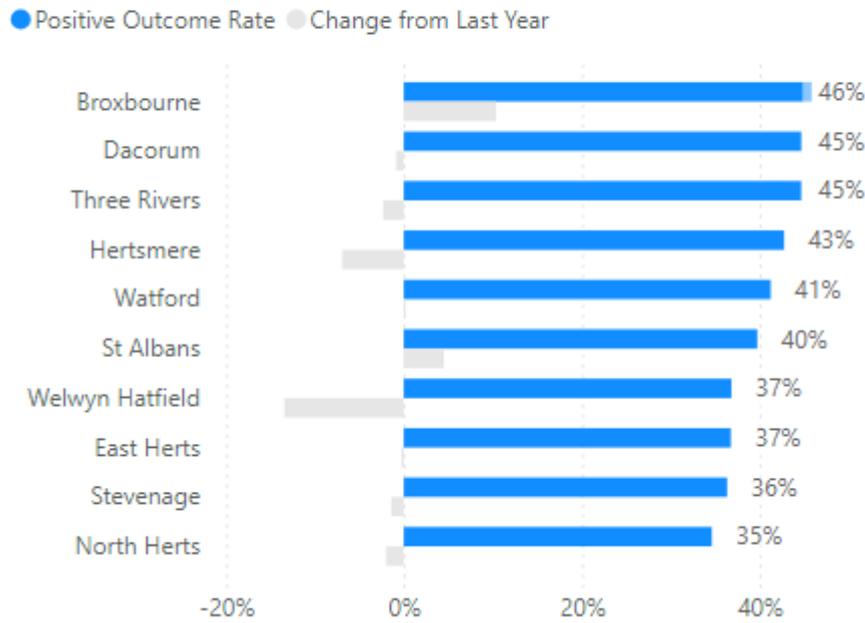
Positive Outcome Rate

Figure 3 – Positive outcome rates for Stop & Search by district in Hertfordshire, for period September 25 – January 26
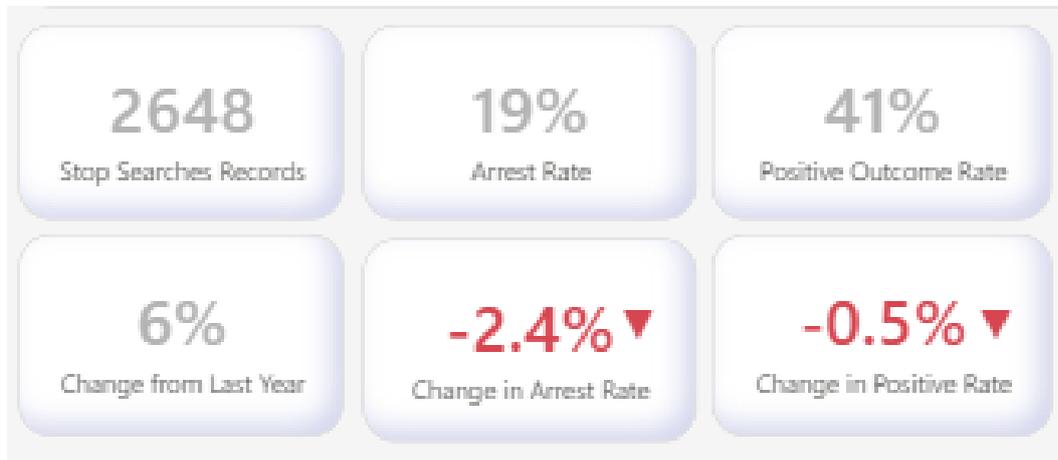

Figure 4- Overview of the whole county for Stop & Search by district in Hertfordshire, for period September 25- January 26

This page is intentionally left blank