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

NOTICE AND AGENDA

For a meeting to be held on Thursday, 18 June 2026 at 10.00 am at Penn Chamber, Three Rivers House, Rickmansworth.

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

Councillors:

Louise Price (Chair)

Narinder Sian (Vice-Chair)

*Joanne Wagstaffe, Chief Executive
10 June 2026*

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES

Community Safety & Safeguarding Manager

2. VOTING OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair of the board for the municipal year 2026-2027.

**3. MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS
CONNECTING THREE RIVERS MEETING**

(Pages 5 - 10)

**4. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION -
DEVOLUTION**

Presentation by the Partnerships & Inclusion Manager

5. TRDC'S COUNCIL PLAN

Presentation by the Policy & Performance Manager

6. WATFORD & THREE RIVERS TRUST

Presentation by Saffron Johnson

7. OUTCOME FROM CONNECTING THREE RIVERS FUNDING AWARDED TO NEW HOPE TRUST

Presentation by Rebecca Palmer

8. CONNECTING THREE RIVERS FUND

Presentation by Partnerships & Inclusion Manager

9. HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Update from Inspector Ben Harper.

10. COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATES

(Pages 11 - 16)

- i. County Community Safety Unit – update from Michael Nadasdy
- ii. Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner – Digital update

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12. NEXT MEETING DATES

16 September 2026

10 December 2026

18 March 2027

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



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 Wednesday, 18 March 2026 from 10.00 am - 11.54 am.

Present: Councillors

Sarah Nelmes (Chair)

Also in Attendance:

Councillor Tim Williams, Hertfordshire County Council
Peta Mettam, Citizens Advice Service Three Rivers
Ben Harper, Hertfordshire Constabulary
Eleanor Makoni, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)
Paul Richmond, Thrive Homes
Rob Smith, Watford FC Community Sports & Education Trust
Peter Cogan, Watford Community Housing
Rosalind Nerio, South West Herts Health & Care Partnership
Matt Mardle, Hertfordshire County Council (HCC)
Paraic McKenna, Hertfordshire County Council (HCC)
Shirish Chauhan, Three Rivers Chamber of Commerce
Mika Saha, Home Group

TRDC Officers in Attendance:

Shivani Dave, Partnerships & Inclusion Manager
Michelle Wright, Community Safety & Safeguarding Manager, Prevent Lead
Rebecca Young, Head of Strategy & Partnerships
Anita Hibbs, Committee Officer

38 WELCOME, INTRODUCTION & APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone.

Apologies for absence were received from Michael Nadasdy and Danielle Levy.

Rosalind Nerio and Matt Mardle introduced themselves as new attendees.

39 MINUTES & ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS CONNECTING THREE RIVERS MEETING

The minutes of the Connecting Three Rivers meeting, held on 11 December 2025 were confirmed as a correct record.

40 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

The Head of Strategy & Partnerships provided an update on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) focusing on the ongoing consultation. The consultation period is still open. The government consultation lasts seven weeks; it is not a referendum, but a key step in decision making. Further detailed updates on evaluation and progress are planned for future meetings.

Rosalind Nerio spoke about the recent publication of the Neighbourhood Health Framework by the Department of Health & Social Care and NHS England. It highlights a key point about the importance of aligning neighbourhood health teams with local government boundaries, including those affected by the LGR. The speaker emphasised the ongoing collaboration between health services and various levels of local government, noting active engagement and communication throughout the process, although formal presentations within NHS organisations have been limited.

The conversation also covered the absence of the business sector in the government consultation list. Officers responded by explaining previous efforts during the proposal stage where councils actively disseminated information to local businesses and held partnership meetings. They clarified that while initial consultations included outreach to businesses, the current government consultation likely did not directly engage businesses but rather operated through partnerships who could then disseminate to businesses.

Additionally, Paraic McKenna highlighted that central government is providing additional powers aimed at accelerating economic growth and enhancing services such as adult education. A formal request for devolution has been invited by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), with plans to establish a foundational mayoral authority. Although this authority may not immediately reach the strategic mayoral level, it will grant new powers.

41 HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Inspector Ben Harper provided an update highlighting the strategic use of available powers to maintain safety and the ongoing commitment to proactive crime prevention in Three Rivers.

42 SOUTH WEST HERTS HEALTH & CARE PARTNERSHIP

Rosalind Nerio delivered a presentation on the delivery plan for South and West Hertfordshire for 2026-2027. Key priorities include improving coordination of care for people with complex conditions, especially older populations, through anticipatory care services reaching around 2000 people.

43 RESILIENCE WORKSHOP

Attendees participated in a workshop focusing on Crisis and Resilience Fund.

Question 1:

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

Responses:

- Quick wins; short term support but,
- Need longer term support to prevent crisis
- Are we supporting everyone?
- Longer term plans → How do we promote benefits, highlight potential savings
- Self-help and digital support → create barriers
- Data sharing, including internal teams
- Holistic review, core issues, partnership link up, (hidden) drives, alcohol, gambling
- Residents access to services, cultural needs
- Equality, who can access, how do we have the evidence to ensure we are reaching those that need it
- Delays in support services/referral pathways (waiting for payments), how can that be improved?
- Welfare checks, and our customers receive all the benefits they are entitled to → money management from a young age
- Unconnected individuals due to various issues
- Fuel cost crisis → current
- Do people know where to go? → JAMs (Just About Managing) are concern
- Consider that people might be reluctant to accept support
- Support with long term change → avoid delaying the problem. Cause not symptom.
- Cooking ability can impact on household finances – need to consider ways to bring back the skills needed for resourceful and healthy cooking.
- Complex needs
- Young people, financial education
- Knowledge, education gap
- Challenges presented through Shared ownership schemes → changes in responsibility
- Affordable rent for people who have retired → what happens in an emergency to those?
- Children's services – transition into adulthood, 25 onwards
- Adults leaving hospital setting, those without support at home
- Voluntary sector could highlight other issues
- Affordability of good nutrition
- Signposting, access to services – where is everything?
- Health Hub, outreach work, finding people
- Citizens Advice Service – very stretched → reduced support/funding
- Some know how to get help – people struggling to navigate the system
- Access to the knowledge
- Challenge – system enables rather than support
- Change lifestyle

Question 2:

Thinking of the fund's priorities and our gaps, what could we co-design that strengthens resilience locally?

Responses:

- More collaboration with partners
- Data sharing
- Clarity of what organisations do
- Referrals, pathway/process
- More prevention → clear plan
- Coproduce with young people

- Coproduce/education wit communities
- Engaging with diverse communities
- Working with the right people at right time
- Time → building relationships, understanding need
- Codesign of strategy, aligning priorities
- Person centred
- Consideration of criteria
- Breaking cycles → early education → where does this happen?
- Young carers
- WCH and Thrive have good links with CASTR – what about other housing associations?
- How do we promote early intervention? → Consider letters that go out early arrears
- Our priority is financial stability/staying in home
- Work with us early
- LIFT – low income family tracker project
- Education and early intervention → integrating this into existing services/projects
- Measuring social value
- Education on support for front line officers; e. g. coaches, teachers
- Navigator / link worker,
- Teaching to cook & providing the resources to do it.
- Approach needs to “Teach to fish” rather than only addressing the symptoms.
- Watford Community Housing developed a cookbook years ago for residents – to address cooking healthy meals on a budget. Consider if this can be used
- Understanding bills/how to access
- Use data to understand more vulnerable people
- Target the general perception
- Early intervention to particular cohorts
- Prevention project
- Partnerships; housing, CAB, Health Hub, colleges
- Getting people into work, maintaining resilience, mental health – e. g. Health Hub, Job Centre

44 HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S CORPORATE PLAN

Paraic McKenna delivered a presentation on Hertfordshire County Council's Corporate Plan 2026-2028; highlighting the plan's five key priorities; helping all children thrive, improving roads and bus services, maintaining a sustainable and green county, supporting adults most in need, and delivering efficient and effective council services. Overall, the plan aims to build a sustainable, inclusive and thriving Hertfordshire through strategic partnerships, service improvements and financial resilience.

45 THRIVE HOMES AND WATFORD COMMUNITY HOUSING UPDATE

Paul Richmond provided an update on the ongoing merger between Thrive Homes and Watford Community Housing. Key motivations include enhancing customer service, increasing community engagement through a community gateway model, and addressing the challenging economic environment affecting housing associations and residents.

The Partnerships & Inclusion Manager offered the use of the Health Hub for community engagement within the district.

Shirish Chauhan encouraged linking with the chamber to identify local businesses that can provide relevant services. In response, Paul Richmond highlighted the current use of a local agency in Watford as a positive example. He also explained the organisation's future procurement plans, which will consolidate contracts for services ranging from compliance and building to office services and cleaning. The overarching goal is to prioritise and support local communities through these procurement activities over the coming years.

46 UPDATES FROM THE COUNTY COMMUNITY SAFETY UNIT AND THE OFFICE OF THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

The Partnerships & Inclusion Manager informed the participants that as Michael Nadasdy had sent his apologies for this meeting, the March update report on the County Community Safety Unit will be circulated to the relevant parties.

Eleanor Makoni reported that there were no specific updates from the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner, however, she noted that the Commissioner is scheduled to proceed with activities in April, including roadshows centred around three districts.

47 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

48 NEXT MEETING DATES

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

CHAIR

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Welcome to the **May** RAG Briefing note from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

This briefing covers:

- **Live Facial Recognition**
- **Winter of Action – results**
- **Safer Town Centres grant scheme**
- **Youth Commission recruitment**
- **Grant Funding: Innovation and Targeted Interventions**
- **Road safety Budget fund**
- **Accountability and Performance Meetings (APM)**

Live Facial Recognition

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.

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.

The technology was tested at the Brookfield Shopping Centre in Cheshunt before Christmas and over **50,000 people** who visited the shopping centre were checked against the watchlist. On this occasion, no matches with the watchlist were found and no arrests were made. But importantly, no false positives or bias was identified either.

Hertfordshire residents back the use of this technology – in the public survey done before Christmas, **81% of the public** said the police's use of the technology was always or usually acceptable.

Following the trial, the Constabulary will be using the technology more regularly across the county.

Winter of Action results

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)

Safer Town Centre Grant Scheme Summer Programme Launch – June 2026

The scheme will launch early June, and bids will be invited from District/Borough Councils, Voluntary/Third Sector/Business sector organisations and the Constabulary.



Priority will be given to projects that focus on targeting:

- Retail crime
- ASB (including youth diversion),
- VAWG
- Crime Prevention.

Examples of the types of measures that could be funded include physical improvements to safety/security in town centres/parks, projects designed to reduce retail crime/ASB, projects to improve nighttime economy safety, and youth diversion projects.

Bids for up to £6000 are invited, any larger bids must be match funded.

In 2025/26, **28 awards made** have been made across Hertfordshire, totalling over **£130k**.

Details, including bidding process will be published on the OPCC webpage, check [PCC 'Safer Town Centres' Grant Scheme 2025/26](#)

Youth Commission on Policing and Crime

The PCC will be relaunching 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.
- Recruitment will run from **12 May to 19 June 2026**. We encourage partners working with young people aged 14 to 25 in Hertfordshire to promote this opportunity and encourage them to apply.
- **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.

Road Safety Budget scheme Expressions of Interest

The scheme is now open, and Expressions of Interest (Eoi) are invited from District/Borough, Parish or Town Councils and the Constabulary.

Priority will be given to projects that prevent incidents on the road, support victims of incidents on the road, and provide interventions to address community concern around various aspects of illegal/antisocial behaviours on the road.

Following Eoi assessment by the OPCC, the applicant may be invited to submit a full application for funding towards a possible solution/intervention.

Details, including bidding process can be found on the following OPCC webpage [Commissioner's Road Safety Budget](#)

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.

Home Office-Serious Violence Reduction/Young Futures 2026/27

The Home Office has made funding available for Specified Authorities to deliver their Serious Violence Duty & Young Futures responsibilities in Hertfordshire for 2026/27.

The OPCC continues to lead on this and have initiated an inaugural meeting of a new Governance Board in June to determine how decisions will be made and funding will be allocated.

Further information will be announced by the OPCC in June/July 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 May APM covered the following topics:

- Domestic Abuse
- Operation Hotspot



- World Cup Planning
- Knife Crime