

Commissioner's covering note

The role of Police and Crime Commissioner was created to help make the police more accountable to the people they serve, and the holding of our local police to account on behalf of the people of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly is my core responsibility.

I do this in a number of ways, one of them via my Commissioner's Accountability Board. Through this Board, I select a number of areas of policing activity and related performance, and as Chair, scrutinise them in detail, requiring the Chief Constable and his team to explain both current performance, and any plans they have in place to make improvements where required.

Following this, I then make a judgment on how assured I am, again both in terms of current police performance and the quality of any improvement plans. I then publish a statement describing my levels of assurance for the public to see, along with the agenda and attendance at each Board, to ensure as wide a visibility as is possible.

I remain committed to ensuring that Devon and Cornwall Police delivers a service to our communities as effectively and efficiently as is possible, and my office and I will continue to not only scrutinise and challenge robustly, but also to celebrate and champion whenever appropriate, on behalf of the people of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

My statement of assurance from my Board meeting of 22nd July 2026, and the meetings agenda, can be found below.

Alison HERNANDEZ

Police & Crime Commissioner

Commissioner's Accountability Board



Date & venue: Wednesday 22nd July 2026, Andy Hocking House, Middlemoor, Exeter

Chair: Fran HUGHES, Chief Executive Officer, OPCC

Chief Constable: James VAUGHAN QPM

Statement of assurance

Within this meeting the Commissioner¹ explored two areas of Devon and Cornwall Police's performance for the purposes of assurance. These included:

- Crime outcomes
- Management of sexual and violent offenders

No.	Title	Rationale	Current performance	Plans
1	Crime outcome performance	The Commissioner was not assured by Devon and Cornwall Police's current performance in relation to crime outcomes. In December 2025, Devon and Cornwall Police fell within the 10th lowest in the country for positive outcome performance. Whilst the Commissioner recognised that varied activity was planned and ongoing to improve outcomes – including a dedicated strategic plan, development of a new performance monitoring tool, and a senior officer review process – the Commissioner noted it was too early to give a statement of assurance on the force's plans given their recent implementation. The Commissioner requested continued live monitoring of performance and reviews at future meetings.	Not assured	N/A
2	Management of sexual and violent offenders	The Commissioner was assured by Devon and Cornwall Police's management of sexual and violent offenders. Although it was recognised that demand was continuing to rise, this was considered by the force through annual resource planning.	Assured	Assured

Key:

Assured	Part assured	Not assured
Sufficient evidence has been provided to assure the Commissioner.	Some evidence has been provided, however insufficient to offer full assurance. Some further work is required.	Insufficient evidence has been provided to assure the Commissioner. Improvements are required.

Alison **HERNANDEZ**, Police & Crime Commissioner for Devon, Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly

¹ The Police and Crime Commissioner was unavailable to attend the meeting. However, following a briefing from the Chief Executive Officer and a review of papers, the Commissioner made the following assurance statements.

Commissioner's Accountability Board



Wednesday, July 22nd, 2026, 2pm–5pm
Fowey Room, Andy Hocking House, Middlemoor

Agenda

Item no.	Title	Lead	Time
0	Arrival		
1	Chair's opening address	Chair	2.00pm
2	Chief Constables Update Report (paper x1) [FOIA: various] To include: - Force performance against the Police and Crime plan. - Force budget & financial performance - HMICFRS/PPOG matters - Recent homicides serious crimes the Commissioner should know about	James VAUGHAN	2.05pm
3	Chief Executives Update Report (paper x1) [FOIA: various] To include: - Delivery against the Police and Crime Plan - Work to hold the police to account - Key engagement and partnership activities - Transparency obligations	Fran HUGHES	2.25pm
4	Complaint handling performance (verbal) <i>An update to the Commissioner on the actions agreed in the May meeting; to include proposed performance metrics.</i>	Lesley BULLEY	2.45pm
5	Investigation Outcomes (paper x1) [FOIA: Closed, S.22] <i>The aim of this item is to inform the Commissioner on the overall force position of investigation outcomes, including challenges and mitigations.</i>	Ben DEER	3:15pm
	Break		3:45pm

6	MOSOVO performance (paper x1) [FOIA: Closed, S.22] <i>The aim of this item is to provide the Commissioner with an overview of MOSOVO performance, current challenges and future operating outlook.</i>	Sheon STURLAND John FRISKEY	3:50pm
7	Policing Reform (standing item) (verbal) A standing item for matters relating to police reform.	Fran HUGHES	4:10pm
8	AOB	Chair	4:30pm
9	Date & time of next meeting – Wednesday 9th September, 2-5pm (formal)	Chair	4:35pm
10	Meeting close	Chair	4:40pm

Attendance

Role	Name	Attended
OPCC		
Chief Executive Officer	Fran HUGHES	Y
Treasurer	Nicky ALLEN	Y
Accountability and Standards Officer	Chloe HOWARD	Y
Head of Communications & Public Affairs	Ben WOOLVIN	Y
DCP		
Chief Constable	James VAUGHAN	Y
Deputy Chief Constable	Jim COLWELL	Y
Assistant Chief Constable, Contact and Specialist Operations	Nikki LEAPER	Y
Director of Legal Services	Mike STAMP	Y
Non-Executive Director	Dinah COX	Y
Staff Officer	Zoe PARNELL	Y
Assistant Chief Officer (People)	Alexis POOLE	Y

Guests

Superintendent, Professional Standards Department	Lesley BULLEY	Y
Detective Sergeant, Public Protection Unit, MOSOVO	John FRISKEY	Y
Chief Superintendent, Protecting Vulnerable People	Sheon STURLAND	Y
Detective Chief Superintendent, Head of Crime	Ben DEER	Y

Apologies

Police & Crime Commissioner	Alison HERNANDEZ
Director of Finance & Resources	David WILKIN
Assistant Chief Constable, Vulnerability and Crime	Matt LONGMAN
Assistant Chief Constable, Local Policing and Partnerships	Glen MAYHEW
Head of Performance & Scrutiny	Jon BACK