

Our ref: PCC/RM

Date: 19th January 2024

Thank you to everyone who turned out to my meeting for Parish Councils on Monday night. I was delighted to see so many people there and both my Deputy Rani Mahal and I look forward to meeting you again at the district surgeries that have been organised for the coming weeks.

I have always recognised that Parish Councils know the community safety issues in their neighbourhoods better than most and that intelligence is key as we work together to cut antisocial behaviour, increase road safety and tackle the crimes that affect residents where you live.

The questions raised, which covered officer numbers, anti-social behaviour and attendance of police at Parish Council meetings and everything in between, were all valid and hopefully our responses were helpful. On issues such as large scale events and other areas where the police service is not the lead agency, we were able to explain which organisation would be better able to help.

I was particularly pleased to hear many people acknowledge the improvements in tackling rural crime since the inception of the Rural Crime Team. Tackling rural crime is a key priority for you and me. I have, as promised, pushed hard for a focus on this area of criminality, including the introduction of the dedicated team, so I welcome the fact that people have seen a tangible difference.

The forthcoming Parish Council surgeries (please see dates below), which I urge you to attend, will provide an opportunity for more detailed feedback. These meetings will be hosted by Rani and I know that she is keen to hear what Parish Council representatives have to say, because we are both aware that while some issues are the same in every area, others are unique to very local pockets of our communities. By taking this opportunity to tell us about it, we will be able to do what we can to support you in resolving it.

The full list of surgeries can be found below – invitations will be emailed to the respective Parish Councils in advance, and I really hope that you will be able to book in and attend one near you.

Those present at Monday's meeting asked if we could send the PowerPoint presentation for them to share with their colleagues on their Parish Council. I hope that it is of interest to those who did not manage to attend.

I promised better communication and engagement with Parish Councils, who represent such a large part of the force area. I am delighted that we have been able to deliver on this. I look forward to working with you.



## Parish Council Surgery Dates:

29th January 2024 – Hinckley and Bosworth

01st February 2024 – Blaby District

06th February 2024 – Northwest Leicestershire

12th February 2024 – Charnwood Borough

13th February 2024 - Rutland

20th February 2024 - Melton Borough

22nd February 2024 – Charnwood

26th February 2024 – Melton Borough

27th February 2024 – Harborough District

4th March 2024 - Northwest Leicestershire

5th March 2024 – Harborough District (TBC)

14th March 2024 – Harborough District (TBC)

15th March 2024 - Rutland

18th March 2024 – Hinckley and Bosworth

19th March 2024 – Blaby District

Yours faithfully,

**Rupert Matthews** 

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Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland