



Issue: August 2026

August 2026 Update from Inspector Ryan Ludlam

As we move through the summer period, I would like to thank everyone who lives, works, visits and invests in Leicester City Centre for their continued support. July has been another busy month for Central Leicester Neighbourhood Policing Area, with officers, PCSOs and partners delivering a wide range of activity focused on reducing crime, tackling anti-social behaviour, improving road safety and increasing public confidence.

Reported Crime Continues to Reduce Across the City Centre

I am pleased to report that report crime trends across Central Leicester remain positive. Current performance, comparing 1 April 2026 to 31 July 2026 against the same period in 2025, shows:

- Overall crime is down 10.9% compared to the same period last year, representing over **520 fewer victims of crime**.
- Robbery is down 32.6%.
- Business burglary is down 46%.
- Residential burglary is down 45.1%.
- Bicycle theft is down 59.3%.
- Theft from motor vehicles is down 64%.
- Shoplifting is down 10.2%.

These results reflect the hard work of the community, neighbourhood officers, our city centre response teams and, importantly, the strong partnership working that exists across Leicester.

Tackling Retail Crime

Retail crime remains one of our highest priorities. During July, officers continued a programme of targeted patrols, offender management and business engagement to support retailers and city centre staff. Repeat offenders continue to be identified and brought before the courts, while work is ongoing with partners to secure further Criminal Behaviour Orders against those causing the most harm to businesses. A number of offenders have also been arrested and charged with a significant number of retail crime offences.

Operation Pedalfast

Operation Pedalfast was created in response to community concerns about the number of illegally modified e-bikes and e-scooters being used inappropriately within the city. The ongoing enforcement activity continues to deliver significant results in tackling illegal and modified e-bikes, e-scooters and other dangerous vehicles being used within the city centre.

- Over 880 illegal or modified vehicles have been recovered over the last 16 months, plus a number of arrests for criminal offences.

This work is making the city centre safer for pedestrians, businesses and road users, while addressing a concern regularly raised through community feedback.

Listening to Your Views

We completed one of the largest city centre perception surveys undertaken in recent years, receiving 788 responses from residents, workers and visitors. The results have helped us better understand public concerns and priorities. Key themes included:

- Drug dealing and drug use.
- Anti-social behaviour.
- Visible policing.
- Safety during the evening and night-time economy.
- Concerns around specific locations including the Clock Tower, Granby Street, Humberstone Gate and Town Hall Square.

The feedback has directly informed our patrol plans and partnership activity. We want residents and businesses to know that we have listened and are acting on what you have told us.

Bringing Offenders to Justice

While crime prevention and community engagement remain key priorities, we are equally committed to pursuing those responsible for serious offences and ensuring they are brought before the courts.

Two men have been jailed for a total of 18 years after posting incriminating videos of themselves on social media.

- 20-year-old Richile Vangu was sentenced to 11 years' imprisonment plus a three-year extended sentence.
- Oluwatobiloba Akinrinola, 19, was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment.

Other offenders charged in the city during July (Not whole list)

- Dawn Freeman – charged with 4 retail thefts
- Kyle Wakefield – charged with retail theft and breaching a criminal behaviour order
- Shamus Wright – Charged with assault and criminal damage and recalled to prison
- Nathan Rao – charged with multiple retail thefts.
- Natalie Frost – charged with 7 retail thefts
- Kayleigh Smith – charged with four assaults and three criminal damage offences.
- Benjamin Olivant – charged with two burglaries and two retail crime offences.
- Jonathan Blundell – charged with three burglaries and two public order offences, and recalled to prison.
- Shawn Tulley – charged with 9 burglaries and recalled to prison
- Andrew Rimes – charged with three assault emergency worker offences and three other offences.
- Shaun Astill – charged with robbery and possession of a knife.

Every arrest, charge and conviction represents the efforts of officers and staff working across the force. Our focus remains on targeting those individuals who cause the greatest harm, protecting vulnerable people and making Leicester City Centre a safer place for everyone.

Partnership Working

July has seen continued collaboration with Leicester City Council, BID Leicester, City Watch, Night-Time Economy partners and community organisations. Joint problem-solving work is underway to address crime

and ASB hotspots, improve safety within the night-time economy and support vulnerable individuals who require intervention from multiple agencies.

Strong partnerships remain one of the greatest strengths of Leicester City Centre and are critical to creating a safe and vibrant environment for everyone.

Summer Events and City Centre Activity

The city centre has remained busy throughout the summer, with a variety of events attracting visitors and supporting the local economy. Officers maintained a visible presence throughout these events, providing reassurance, engaging with communities and helping ensure that Leicester remains a welcoming place to live, work and visit.

Thank You

I would like to personally thank residents, businesses, community groups, volunteers and partner agencies for the support you continue to provide to Central Leicester NPA. Your information, feedback and engagement help us identify concerns, solve problems and focus resources where they can make the greatest difference.

Together, we are continuing to reduce crime, improve safety and build confidence in Leicester City Centre.

If you would like to receive regular policing updates, crime prevention advice and opportunities to engage with your local neighbourhood team, please ensure you are signed up to Neighbourhood Link.

Thank you for your continued support.

Inspector Ryan Ludlam
Central Leicester NPA Commander
Leicestershire Police

Upcoming Community Engagements

Please keep up to date with our website and planned events or engagement opportunities using the following link:

[Your area | Leicestershire Police](#)

