



September Newsletter – Inspector Ryan Ludlam

Welcome to the September edition of the Leicester City Centre Newsletter. This month marks my second year in post as City Centre Policing Commander, and I continue to be impressed by the commitment shown by our officers, staff, volunteers, partners, businesses and communities who help make Leicester such a vibrant place to live, work and visit.

August saw a significant amount of enforcement activity across the city centre, alongside extensive community engagement and partnership working. We also experienced some exceptionally warm weather, which brought its own challenges for policing and our partners. As we move into September and many children and young people return to school, the city centre begins to take on a different feel, with changing demands and opportunities to focus on the issues that matter most to residents, businesses and visitors.

In this edition, you'll find examples of the proactive work being carried out to tackle retail crime and anti-social behaviour, improve road safety, support vulnerable people, and keep our city centre safe and welcoming for everyone. Thank you for your continued support, engagement and partnership. Together, we continue to make Leicester City Centre a safer and more vibrant place for all.

Reported Crime Continues to Reduce Across the City Centre

I am pleased to report that crime trends across Central Leicester remain positive. Comparing the period from 1 April 2026 to 31 August 2026 with the same period last year, the latest figures show:

- Overall reported crime is down 6.8% compared to the same period last year, representing more than 420 fewer victims in the city centre.
- Business burglary is down 37%, which represents more than 60 fewer businesses becoming victims.
- Residential burglary is down 45.1%, which represents more than 50 fewer victims.
- Bicycle theft is down 53.9%, which represents more than 115 fewer victims.
- Theft from motor vehicles is down 6%, which represents more than 220 fewer victims.
- Shoplifting is down 1.6%.

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

This month I want to focus on retail crime, which remains a priority for businesses, staff and the wider city centre community. We all see the impact that shop theft and repeat offending can have on retailers, employees and customers. Staff should be able to work safely, and businesses should be able to trade without being repeatedly targeted by those intent on causing harm.

As a city centre policing team, one of our key priorities is keeping people safe and bringing offenders to justice. Officers have been visiting stores across the city centre and carrying out enhanced safety visits, offering practical advice around product placement, CCTV coverage, security patrols and other prevention measures that can help reduce opportunities for offending.

Visible policing remains a central part of our approach, and officers are out in the city centre every day. However, enforcement is also vital. During August, we continued to target those causing the greatest harm to retailers, staff and the wider business community. A number of people were arrested and charged, and I have included below examples of some of the offenders charged with retail crime offences in the city.

While the police do not control court outcomes, we will continue to seek appropriate orders where available, including Criminal Behaviour Orders, to place restrictions on persistent offenders and help protect businesses from further harm.

Examples of retail offenders charged in the city during August

- Shaun Williams (31) – charged with theft from stores and recalled to prison.
- Wayne Ayers (39) – charged with six theft from store offences, burglary other than dwelling
- Steven Tattersall (53) – charged with three theft from store offences.
- Robin Wines (40) – charged with six theft from store offences and fraud.
- Kyle Tams (38) – charged with eight theft from store offences and recalled to prison.
- Jordan Parkin (29) – charged with six theft from store offences.
- Ryan Spring (39) – charged with three theft from store offences.
- Paul Douglas (35) – charged with three theft from store offences.
- Damien Powdrill (44) – charged with three theft from store offences.
- Robert Wilkinson (44) – charged with nine theft from store offences and two assaults on emergency workers.
- Richard Blockley (43) – charged with eight theft from store offences and assaulting an emergency worker.
- Liam Newman (32) – charged with two theft from store offences and two assaults on emergency workers.
- Olan Easingwood (20) – charged with six theft from store offences.
- Luke O’Rielly (31) – charged with nine theft from store offences and taking a motor vehicle without the owner’s consent.
- Ben Packwood (41) – charged with four theft from store offences.
- Shane Carter – charged with seven theft from store offences.

Operation Pedalfast

Operation Pedalfast deployments have continued throughout the month, targeting the illegal and dangerous use of modified e-bikes, e-scooters and other vehicles in the city centre. We are now approaching 1,000 vehicles seized as part of this work. This is not a milestone I wanted to reach, but it reflects the ongoing risk posed by a small number of riders who continue to use these vehicles at speed and in a way that places pedestrians, businesses and other road users at risk.

Our priority remains to stop, educate while taking enforcement action. Some vehicles have also been linked to wider criminality, including drugs, weapons and wanted individuals. As long as this remains a concern for the community, we will continue to respond. This work is helping make the city centre safer and directly addresses an issue repeatedly raised through community feedback.

Listening to Your Views

In my last newsletter, I referred to one of the largest city centre perception surveys undertaken in Leicester in recent years. Your feedback has helped us focus activity in the places and on the issues that matter most to you. The main concerns raised were:

- 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.

Over the next four weeks, I will be releasing videos to update residents, businesses and visitors on the work that police and partners have completed, and the activity that remains ongoing, to tackle these concerns. We want people to know that we have listened and that we are acting on what you have told us.

If you want to hear directly about what is happening in your area, please sign up to Neighbourhood Link, Leicestershire Police's free community messaging service. You can receive local policing updates, crime prevention advice and information about incidents affecting Leicester City Centre directly to your inbox.

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

[Your area | Leicestershire Police](#)

Bringing Offenders to Justice

This month, a number of significant cases have progressed through the criminal justice system, including robbery, manslaughter, drug supply and knife-related offences.

A father and son have appeared at Leicester Crown Court in relation to robbery offences:

- Gary Moore (58) pleaded guilty to four counts of robbery relating to businesses, including one offence within Leicester City Centre.
- Jack Moore (33) pleaded guilty to three counts of robbery relating to the same Leicester incident.

Both will be sentenced at Leicester Crown court on 28th October 2026.

Harper Dennis (19) was found guilty and convicted of manslaughter on Tuesday 25 August and sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment following a fatal stabbing in Leicester City Centre on 3 February this year.

Following separate investigations this month, two further offenders have been charged with key offences within the city. These cases are not connected and are now subject to the criminal justice process:

- Abdulrahman Abdullah (22) – charged with six counts of possession with intent to supply Class A drugs.
- Osman Haron (19) – charged with two robbery offences, possession of a knife in a public place and criminal damage.

Partnership Working

August has seen continued collaboration with Leicester City Council, BID Leicester, Night-Time Economy partners and community organisations. A number of targeted patrols and joint problem-solving activities remain underway to address crime and ASB hotspots. Updates on this work will be included in the videos I mentioned above.

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

Thank You

I would like to personally thank residents, businesses, community groups, volunteers and partner agencies for the continued support you provide to Central Leicester NPA. The police are the community, and the community are the police. Without your voices and support, we could not continue to protect the community in the way that we do.

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

Thank you for your continued support.

Inspector Ryan Ludlam
Central Leicester NPA Commander
Leicestershire Police

