



December 2025

Welcome to your update from your NPA Commander

Introduction

Hello, I am Inspector Darren Richardson your local policing commander and welcome to you December newsletter.

Operation Vex: Tackling Retail Crime

Operation Vex is a local initiative enabling us to deploy officers and PCSO's to tackle retail crime in our major towns on the NPA.

We have undertaken:

- **Proactive Patrols and Arrests:**
Op Vex launched on **17 November** to address seasonal spikes in retail theft and anti-social behaviour across Melton, Oakham, and Uppingham.
- Officers carried out **high-visibility intelligence-led patrols** and **plain-clothes operations**, resulting in multiple arrests of prolific offenders and swift interventions at hotspot locations.



We are committed to protecting local businesses by having:

- o High-visibility patrols in Melton, Oakham, and Uppingham.
- o Targeted enforcement days against prolific offenders.
- o Extra presence on market days and late-night shopping events.

Operation Vex also provides Community Reassurance:

Extra staffing on market days and joint patrols with local councils and business networks helps deter crime and reassure residents during the busy festive period. We were able to deploy officers and PCSO's when the lights were switched on in Melton Mowbray.



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Positive news from Social media



Oakham Christmas Light Switch-On:

- Rutland officers joined the community for a festive evening featuring Santa and Filbert Fox. During the event, proactive patrols led to the **swift arrest of a shoplifter who assaulted staff**, highlighting our readiness to act while engaging positively with residents.

- **Melton Christmas Light Switch-On and Victorian Market**

Melton officers supported the Christmas Light Switch-On and Victorian Market helping make it safe and enjoyable for everyone. They provided a visible presence and friendly engagement providing festive spirit.



Winter Drink-Drive & Road Safety Campaign

- **Fatal Four Enforcement:** Focused on speeding, mobile phone use, seatbelt compliance, and drink/drug driving.
 - **Extra patrols:** Dedicated officers deployed on key routes during evenings and weekends.
- Public Messaging:** Follow us on social media posts and Neighbourhood Link for updates and safety messages reminding drivers of the risks and consequences.