

The role of Police and Crime Commissioner to be abolished

UK Home Secretary, **Shabana Mahmood**, announced:

“The introduction of police and crime commissioners by the last government was a failed experiment.

I will introduce new reforms so police are accountable to their local mayoralities or local councils. The savings will fund more neighbourhood police on the beat across the country, fighting crime and protecting our communities.”

(gov.uk website Sept 2025)

On 13th September, **Alison Hernandez**, our police and crime commissioner, announced that her current role is to be abolished in the spring of 2028.

Ms Hernandez stated, “I want to assure all members of the public that my office and I are still going to be here for the next two and a half years and we will continue to hold the police to account on your behalf.

“My team and I have a lot to be proud of. We have a record number of police officers (3,610) and are one of the areas with the most reopened police stations. We also believe Devon & Cornwall Police is the most financially stable force in England thanks to the good financial planning of my office.

I am doubtful the change announced today will save the estimated £100 million that has been stated by the Home Office minister. The duties of my office must remain independent of policing and will continue to incur a cost to the public regardless of where the responsibility for delivering them rests. This includes providing services for victims, being the appeals body for complaints against the police and having responsibility for elements of the misconduct process for all police officers.”

(email from OPCC. Sept. 2025)

Councillor Advocate Seminar. 3 September 2025. Plymouth Argyle Football Club. Drugs & Alcohol.

Chris Gynn to attend and report back to council at the December meeting.