



# Rural and Wildlife Crime Strategy 2022-2025



# Foreword

As National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) Lead for Rural and Wildlife Crime, I am proud to introduce the new three-year strategy for rural and wildlife crime.

This strategy will build on the work undertaken to deliver the 2018 - 2021 strategy and the fantastic progress that has been made. I would like to thank everyone who has worked so hard over the last four years and acknowledge the professionalism, effort and commitment, which has been so apparent through the successes and achievements to date.

I have been hugely impressed with the knowledge, experience, and relentless effort from colleagues in policing, and our partners. Much of this work is voluntary, with many people going that extra mile, because they are passionate about this work. I am full of admiration and gratitude for this and will endeavour to have this collective effort recognised wherever possible.

The evidence base supporting the previous strategy and the outcomes achieved is strong. This also reflects the ongoing commitment from NPCC to provide funding alongside key stakeholders – Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Northern Ireland) [DAERA NI], Home Office, Scottish Government and NatureScot who continue to provide resources to maintain the National Wildlife Crime Unit (NWCU) and to those partners and agencies who work collaboratively to progress our rural crime objectives.

Alongside the successful delivery of this strategy there will be a strong focus on creating a more enduring policing model for rural and wildlife crime.

I want the impact of these crime types to be better understood, but I also recognise that we are operating under extremely challenging financial

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constraints, with competing demands. I would like to establish a more effective and efficient national coordination function, which has capacity and capability to support policing and partners.

Combining our efforts across rural and wildlife crime prevention and enforcement, is the optimum approach. I will seek to deliver this sustainable model within the lifetime of this strategy.

We will work to strengthen how we protect the vulnerable, prevent harm to individuals, communities and wildlife. We will relentlessly pursue those using organised networks or serious crime for financial gain.

I am confident that as a result we will make further progress to protect our rural communities and preserve the beautiful countryside and wildlife that we all enjoy.

*Debbie Ford*

**Debbie Ford**  
Deputy Chief Constable Northumbria Police  
NPCC Lead for Rural & Wildlife Crime

# Introduction

The purpose of the NPCC strategy for Rural and Wildlife Crime is to provide a framework through which policing, and its partners can work together, to tackle the most prevalent threats and emerging issues which have the greatest impact on our rural communities or wildlife.

This is a significant challenge, due to the scale and breadth of issues affecting rural communities and wildlife. It requires clear strategic direction, focused effort, strong governance and scrutiny, to ensure that tangible and measurable progress can be delivered against each identified priority.

The strategy and its aims cannot cover all the issues faced within wildlife and rural crime, and it is important through this strategy to prioritise our collective effort. By remaining focused we will deliver positive outcomes that really can make a difference.

The Rural and Wildlife Crime working group sits under the NPCC Serious Organised Acquisitive Crime (SOAC) Portfolio, led by DCC Amanda Blakeman.

This work has taken into consideration the SOAC Strategy 2022 - 2024 and is designed to support the SOAC mission and vision, while focusing on the specific challenges and needs of Rural and Wildlife Crime.

This strategy is designed to address those areas identified as presenting the greatest risk, threat, or harm, using police methodology and assessment, and considers the core functions and responsibilities of policing. There is a strong emphasis on targeting those benefitting financially through illegal activities and pursuit of criminals involved in serious and organised crime. There is also an ambition to increase capability and capacity of resources, and a real drive to protect and prevent crimes and reduce the impact on victims.

There have previously been separate strategies for Wildlife Crime and Rural Affairs. This has worked well, but the two areas have cross cutting themes and opportunities which would benefit from a single strategy. By combining both, this should reduce effort, duplication and maximise the resources available to deliver the strategic objectives.

This approach was further endorsed during the consultation and engagement undertaken with stakeholders and partners, where greater alignment of rural and wildlife priorities and themes were supported.

A joined-up approach will also support the ambition to develop a National Rural and Wildlife Crime Unit across the lifetime of this strategy. The joint Unit would coordinate activity and provide intelligence, analytical and operational support to police forces and partners.

Outside the NPCC strategy and delivery model there are many agencies, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and interest groups who are working towards similar priorities and objectives.

This work is vital and necessary to deal with the broad range of threats and issues affecting wildlife and rural crime in the UK. The existence of these groups is crucial to the fight against these crime types.

While the NPCC strategy aligns closely with those groups working in law enforcement and criminal justice, a key part of its successful delivery remains embedded in working with the broadest range of partners possible. Where those partners have the same shared purpose, vision and values underpinned by the statutory legal framework, it is a necessary foundation of this strategy to engage and find common opportunities in the wider interests of rural and wildlife crime prevention.

We have also considered the work of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) and specifically their National Rural Crime Network (NRCN) in the development of this strategy. We acknowledge the role APCC play in building confidence and trust in rural communities.

**This work is vital and necessary to deal with the broad range of threats and issues affecting wildlife and rural crime in the UK.**



# Threat Assessment

This section will outline the current assessment of Rural and Wildlife Crime and provide data and analysis of the threats and emerging issues.

The National Wildlife Crime Unit has undertaken a strategic assessment and within it identified the current threats and themes which inform our priorities.

NWCU, 2022: Strategic Assessment

There is no equivalent product available for Rural Crime, however an assessment has been undertaken of information and intelligence available, to provide an evidence base to support the identification of priorities.

## Wildlife Crime

Flora and fauna are incredibly important for the health of our planet and our delicately balanced ecosystems. Wildlife crime poses a significant threat to this from a local level through to national and international activity. It is therefore necessary to have a coordinated approach to tackle wildlife crime.

Crimes against wildlife are widespread, numerous and varied. In general, wildlife crime can be defined as any action which contravenes current legislation governing the protection of the UK's wild flora and fauna, including species traded in the UK.

It is estimated that the illegal wildlife trade is worth up to £17 billion a year and is a significant serious and organised crime generator; the fourth largest after drugs, firearms, and human trafficking. Furthermore, there are tangible links between specific wildlife crime types and organised criminality, such as in the case of hare coursing. There are also strong links to domestic offending, in that the most prolific offenders may embark on their offending through the abuse of animals. Alongside the pain and suffering experienced by animals, wildlife crime can also significantly impact conservation status by pushing species closer to extinction.

The UK Government is subject to international obligations to ensure wildlife crime is effectively investigated. The police lead on law enforcement, and aim to disrupt and tackle wildlife crime effectively, using available resources to focus on issues likely to have the greatest impact and result in positive effects for wildlife. Other factors are considered, such as the community and public interest.

The NWCU Strategic Assessment for Wildlife Crime was presented to the United Kingdom Tasking & Coordination Group (UKTCG) in June 2022. The Strategic Assessment outlines current threats, risks and emerging issues. This aids the decision-making process with recommendations considered for appropriate action to effectively tackle and disrupt wildlife crime. The UKTCG ratifies the areas to become national wildlife crime priorities for the next strategic period. The seven UK wildlife crime priorities for 2022 - 2025 were set as bat crime, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), freshwater pearl mussels, bird of prey crime [conservation priorities], badger crime and poaching (including hare coursing, deer poaching and fish poaching) [non-conservation priorities]. Cyber related wildlife crime remains a cross cutting issue, with cyber enabled criminality being an important factor across all priorities.

Emerging trends in Wildlife Crime since the last strategy was published include the global threat from the illegal wildlife trade (IWT), illicit finances and organised criminality.

The NWCU have been funded by the Home Office to deliver the UK's first Threat Assessment on the Illegal Wildlife Trade, which will analyse these emerging trends and can be found on the NWCU website ([www.nwcu.police.uk](http://www.nwcu.police.uk)).

# Rural Crime

The first cross-governmental rural proofing report by Defra (2021) identified the need to tackle rural crime as a key policy area, particularly as rural communities begin to emerge from the effects of the Covid pandemic. The concept of 'rural proofing' builds upon the need to improve resilience for rural communities and businesses in recognition of the unique challenges they face.

*"Rural areas are in large measure no different from any other region or place. Whether we live in a city, a town, or remote rural setting, we all expect the same opportunities and protections. There are however certain characteristics of rural life... which require particular attention when designing and monitoring policy and programme delivery."*

(Minister for Rural Affairs and Biosecurity; Defra, 2021, p.5)

As we anticipate publication of the 2022 rural proofing report, Defra and the Home Office continue to commit their support to police and partners in tackling Rural Crime as a priority area. In support of this, the Rural and Wildlife Crime Strategy will provide a revised approach to tackling existing and emerging crime issues during this post Covid period.

*"We recognise the importance to Rural Communities of tackling rural crime and we will continue to work for progress on issues such as fly tipping. The government is committed to protecting the public and determined to drive down crime in rural and urban areas, which is why the government is recruiting an additional 20,000 officers over the next three years"*

(Minister for Rural Affairs and Biosecurity; Defra, 2021, p.6)

Since 2019, policing and partners have faced unprecedented challenge in tackling rural crime. According to the National Farmers Union (NFU), the recent Covid pandemic has seen a surge in a range of crime types which have had a lasting

effect on farmers and those who live rurally, increasing feelings of vulnerability and isolation. Despite an overall decrease in rural theft during this period, it has been recognised that *"when criminals struck, they struck harder, using new tactics to overcome security"* (NFU Rural Crime Report, 2021, p.5).

Whilst the overall financial cost of rural crime has decreased since 2019 (from £54.3m in 2019 to £43.3m in 2020 according to NFU Mutual Claims data) there is no doubt that the rapidly changing landscape of rural crime continues to have a lasting impact on victims and provides the impetus to review the way we respond to and tackle rural crime (NFU Rural Crime Report, 2021, p.9).

A recent NPCC Rural Crime Strategy Survey, extended to all 43 Police Forces, found consistency in crime trends being reported nationally.

## Summary of Post Covid Lockdown Crime Trends

- as reported in NFU Annual Report and supported by feedback from Rural Crime Survey:

### Theft of high value tractor GPS systems and ATVs

- The post lockdown period has seen a notable increase nationally in theft of ATVs and specialist farming Satnav systems by Organised Criminal Groups which has severely impacted farmers' ability to work, particularly during busy harvest periods. The impact of this type of offence cannot be underestimated. A recent study by Northumbria University identified the significant financial consequences faced by farmers who are reliant on working within the seasonal farming calendar; critical activity such as harvesting and attending to livestock are severely impacted,

criminal damage is often experienced as collateral and victims are unable to get replacement machinery on time. Moreover, the study identifies that this crime type extends beyond that of a 'business crime' because it happens at the victim's family home; feelings of intrusion, isolation and vulnerability are heightened, leading families to live in a state of constant vigilance and fear (Tudor, 2021, p.7).

**Livestock Worrying Offences** - Tragically, an increase in popularity of dog ownership has also seen a rise in reports of livestock worrying; this has a devastating impact on both sheep and cattle, as well as the farming community and attacks are reported to continue in this upward trend. According to NFU, dog attacks on farm animals has seen a 10.2% rise since lockdown, with an associated cost in 2020 of £1.3m and the first quarter of 2021 seeing a 50% increase in the cost of attacks (NFU Rural Crime Report, 2021, p.7). Once again, the impact of this type of offending extends beyond the physical loss or damage to livestock, causing suffering to animals and intense stress to the farming community involved.

**Fuel Theft** - With a national surge in fuel prices, this has resulted in an increase in fuel thefts throughout rural communities, particularly relating to red diesel. The price of fuel in 2022 creates a need to focus on crime prevention and target hardening of potential victims. The expanding nature of 'fuel' in the context of farming and agriculture - oil, diesel and heating fuel are areas of concern. In the future other fuel sources such as electric, batteries and solar may be targeted.

**Fly tipping** - The fly tipping of waste in rural locations is described by NFU as having reached 'epidemic proportions' because of limited access to waste disposal sites during lockdown (NFU Rural Crime Report, 2021, p.7). Disappointingly and despite the reopening of these sites, fly tipping remains a persistent problem within rural communities. Beyond the obvious eyesore this presents, fly tipping by individuals and unlicensed operators "is a constant threat to human and animal health and undermines the safety of those who live and work in the countryside" (Martin Kennedy, NFU Scotland President in NFU Rural Crime Report, 2021, p.7).

**Poaching and Hare Coursing** - Poaching, and particularly hare coursing, have been named as a priority rural issue within several Force areas, with the understanding that this activity carries strong links to Organised Criminality and cuts across into the Wildlife crime agenda. There has been significant progress in this threat area, particularly hare coursing under the auspices of Operation Galileo, however it remains a priority.

**Equine Crime** - The theft of horses, tack, and equine equipment, alongside an increase in reports of fly-grazing (also known as 'green yarding') where horse owners tether their animals to public or private land and allow them to graze, has also been a consistent feature of recent feedback and surveys. The above assessment of crime trends has led us to focus our efforts via the PDGs and has helped shape our Rural Crime priorities.

# Strategy Development: Our Approach

## Understanding the Landscape

The Rural and Wildlife Crime portfolio sits under the NPCC Serious Organised Acquisitive Crime (SOAC) Portfolio, led by DCC Amanda Blakeman at Gwent police.

This strategy has taken into consideration the SOAC Strategy 2022 - 2024 and is designed to support the SOAC mission and vision, while focusing on the specific challenges and needs of rural and wildlife crime.

The UK is also the first of the Group of Seven (G7) countries to request the International Consortium on Combatting Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) Toolkit assessment, work which sits under the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). This request was UK government led, and the report was published in 2021 entitled Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit Report: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. Its assessment and recommendations have been used in the development of this strategy.

## Strategic Assessment

A full strategic assessment and MoRiLE scoring has been completed for wildlife crime and a similar but less detailed analysis has been completed of rural crime issues. The Wildlife Crime Strategic Assessment included thirteen recommendations which will be adopted in the delivery of this strategy. [www.nwcu.police.uk/about/publications/](http://www.nwcu.police.uk/about/publications/)

## Review, Consultation and Engagement

The strategy has been developed in phases to ensure it is widely informed and evidence based.

Phase 1 was a review and closure of the 2018 - 2021 Rural Affairs and Wildlife Crime strategies.

Phase 2 was the initiation of a full strategic assessment which was completed and reported in June 2022, a full consultation and engagement programme which ran for three months, concluding in June 2022 and the assessment of the evidence base available from a multitude of sources and reports across government, academia, and partners to inform the strategy.

Phase 3 has been the assessment and review of the evidence base provided by phase 1 and 2 and the final recommendations from the national Rural and Wildlife Crime leads as to priorities, themes, and governance.




## Wildlife Crime Consultation Outcomes

### Survey and Engagement Events

The NPCC Wildlife Crime Strategy Survey conducted in 2022 received a total of 189 responses from police forces, government departments and partners working within the wildlife crime arena. 64% of respondents were Wildlife Crime Officers (WCOs).

83% of respondents agree that within the last three years the profile of wildlife crime has been raised across the UK. The proportion of forces and organisations that have set wildlife crime objectives or adopted a problem-solving approach to wildlife crime have increased, which is good progress. 69% of police forces and 70% of partners have set wildlife crime objectives or adopted a problem-solving approach to wildlife crime.

These results indicate there is scope to homogenise objectives and support partners to adopt a problem-solving approach.



Poaching is a priority rural issue in several Force areas

## Rural Crime Consultation Outcomes

### Survey and Engagement Events

The initial assessment for rural crime has drawn upon two approaches; firstly, a benchmarking survey of all 43 Forces to establish the current policing and partnership approach to rural policing, current rural crime priorities as well as consultation on how we tackle rural crime in the future.

Secondly, a series of engagement events were held with NGOs, charities, stakeholders including Defra and Home Office, conservation and enforcement partners and all UK Police Forces to establish current views on priorities for 2022 - 2025.

The NPCC Rural Crime Strategy survey was carried out in May 2022 and attracted 79 respondents from 28 Forces, including representation from Police Scotland, Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) and South Wales Police. Partner agencies were also involved in the survey, with representation from Local Authorities, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), NFU, and Historic England amongst others.

A key finding from the survey shows that while many Forces and regions are working well with

partners and have dedicated rural crime teams, there is a real appetite for national coordination for rural crime. Over 95% of respondents agreed that the establishment of a National Rural Crime Unit to replicate the current National Wildlife Crime Unit would enhance policing's approach to tackling rural crime.

The survey results also affirm the current key priority areas supported by the PDG structure:

- Farm Machinery, Plant and Vehicle Theft
- Livestock Offences
- Fuel Theft
- Equine Crime
- Fly Tipping

It was further highlighted that Poaching is a priority rural issue in several Force areas, a theme which currently cross cuts into National Wildlife Crime Unit priorities.

Whilst over 80% of respondents confirmed that their Force or Agency had set rural crime objectives, rural crime is not always embedded within Force Priorities (26% of respondents), or Police and

Crime Plans (41% of respondents) which tells a story about the current profile of rural crime nationally. Furthermore, there is an identified need for improvement in intelligence sharing with cross border matters, awareness of existing partnership initiatives such as Secure by Design and Operation Hawkeye, and maximising investigative capability using Cyber and Financial crime units and Regional Organised Crime Units (ROCU).

With respect to key deliverables, a focus on best practice toolkits, practical advice, training, and awareness were considered most beneficial in supporting rural crime professionals. There is also increasing recognition that the role of volunteers is a key resource in the delivery of rural crime objectives. Over 83% of respondents confirmed that rural or wildlife crime volunteers were currently deployed to support tackling rural crime.

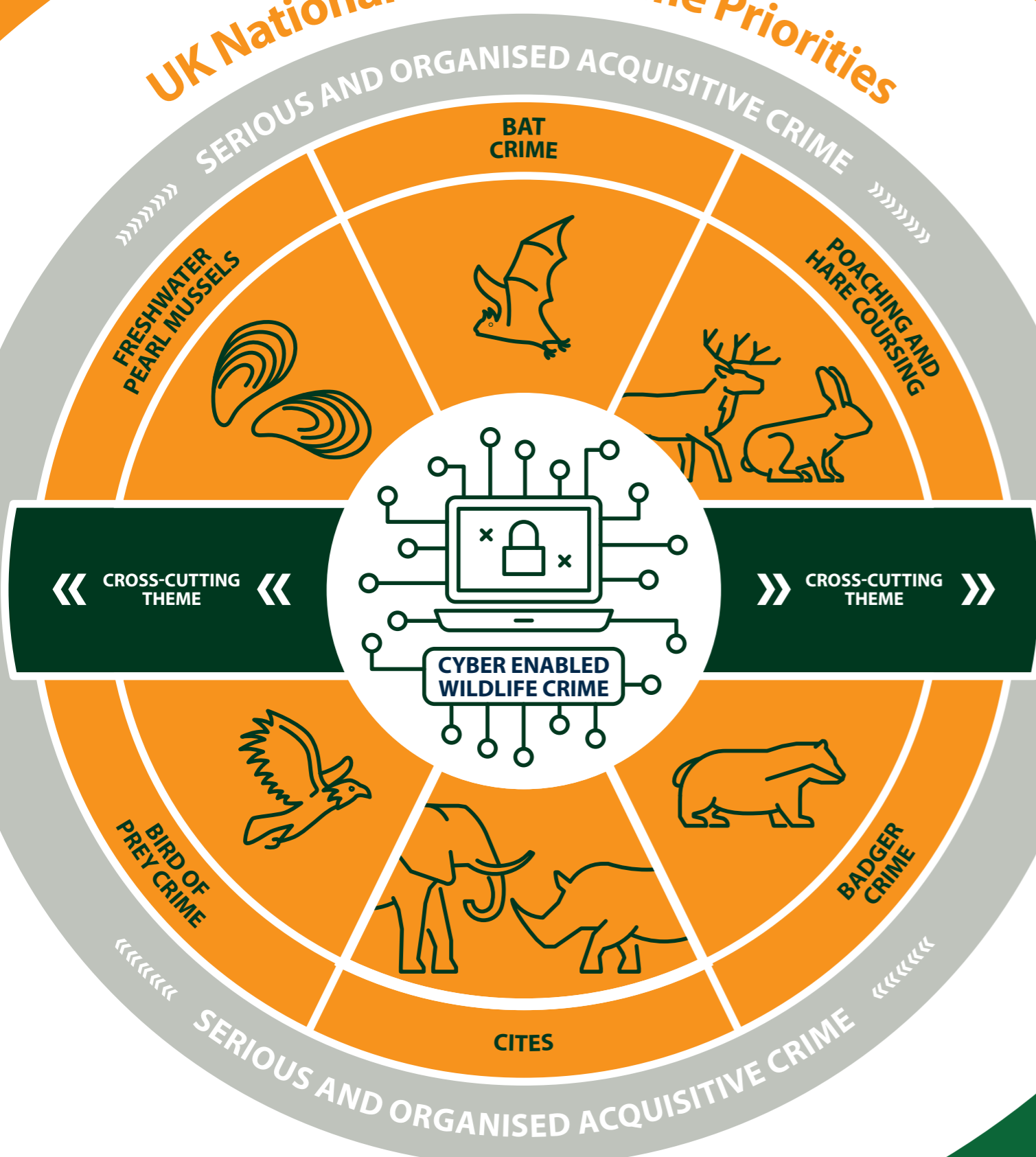
Finally, there is acceptance that the assessment of the true impact of criminality within rural communities is hampered by inconsistencies in crime recording across Forces. Many rural crimes, such as theft of agricultural equipment and vehicles, are lost within volume crime statistics. The

alignment between 'business' crime and farming does not adequately reflect the vulnerability and isolation experienced by victims. In summary, there is no consistent means of assessing the unique challenges faced by rural communities, where farming businesses extend so intrinsically into the home and family life. This is underpinned by the current lack of agreed definition for 'rural crime'.

Despite the key challenges drawn out from this consultation process, there is still much positive work to be built upon within rural policing. Operation Hawkeye, Galileo and Checkpoint have recently demonstrated successful collaboration between Forces and Partners in tackling cross border offending and intelligence sharing. Recent amendments to legislation have seen the Game Act (1831) securing improved powers and sanctions in relation to Hare Coursing. The Livestock Act (1996) has improved powers for police to act on livestock offences, and broaden the scope of legislation to reflect modern farming techniques.

# Priorities 2022-25

## UK National Wildlife Crime Priorities



## UK National Rural Crime Priorities







# Strategic Aims

Create an effective, nationally coordinated response to rural and wildlife crime; a response which is sustainable and enduring; supporting policing and its partners to prevent crime, pursue those who commit it, and protect those most affected by it.

We will focus on the most vulnerable individuals, communities, wildlife, and habitats; those at greatest risk of harm. We will prioritise the pursuit of criminals involved in serious and organised acquisitive or wildlife crime using those networks for financial gain.

## Strategic Objectives:



### PARTNERSHIPS

Work in partnership to **reduce crime and protect** rural communities and wildlife



### VICTIMS

Improve support to victims affected by crime in rural areas especially those who have an increased fear of crime and vulnerability



### CAPACITY & CAPABILITY

Increase the capacity and capability of assets and resources **prepared** to deliver the strategy



### INTELLIGENCE

Improve intelligence and information sharing among partners and enforcement agencies to maximise delivery under the 4P's



### TECHNOLOGY

Use technology and innovation to **protect** communities and wildlife and **prevent** criminality



### GOVERNANCE & PERFORMANCE

Implement robust governance and scrutiny demonstrating value for money and **performance** outcomes



### CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Work with **CJ partners** and Government to improve legislation, sentencing and recording of crimes



### ORGANISED CRIME

**Pursue** serious and/or organised criminality across wildlife and rural crime focussing joint effort to reduce harm



### COMMUNICATION

Develop communication and engagement plans to promote education, operations, outcomes, and **prevention** work



# Delivery Model

## How will we deliver the strategy?

The Rural and Wildlife Crime portfolio already has well established Priority Delivery Groups (PDGs) with terms of reference and objectives. Each PDG has a Chair as well as identified leads for prevention and enforcement.

Looking forward, each PDG will have a 4P plan, as well as specific objectives that are measurable, realistic, and achievable and which link to the overall strategy.

The 4P approach will enable PDGs to set clear objectives which align to the delivery of the strategy and will provide governance around the performance and delivery of these objectives. The model will also support PDGs in navigating challenges which may prevent successful outcomes.

**Prepare:** Prepare for when wildlife and rural crime may occur, preventing where possible and mitigating its impact through efficient use of intelligence, data and technology.

**Prevent:** Preventing and deterring people from engaging in rural and wildlife crime through effective partnerships, media and communication, and public engagement.

**Pursue:** Relentlessly pursue offenders with particular focus on serious and organised criminals, using our criminal justice partners to prosecute, and to disrupt and deter offending through effective enforcement tactics.

**Protect:** Protect rural communities and wildlife from the impact of crime through a coordinated national effort utilising all resources and increasing the capacity and capability of police and partners.

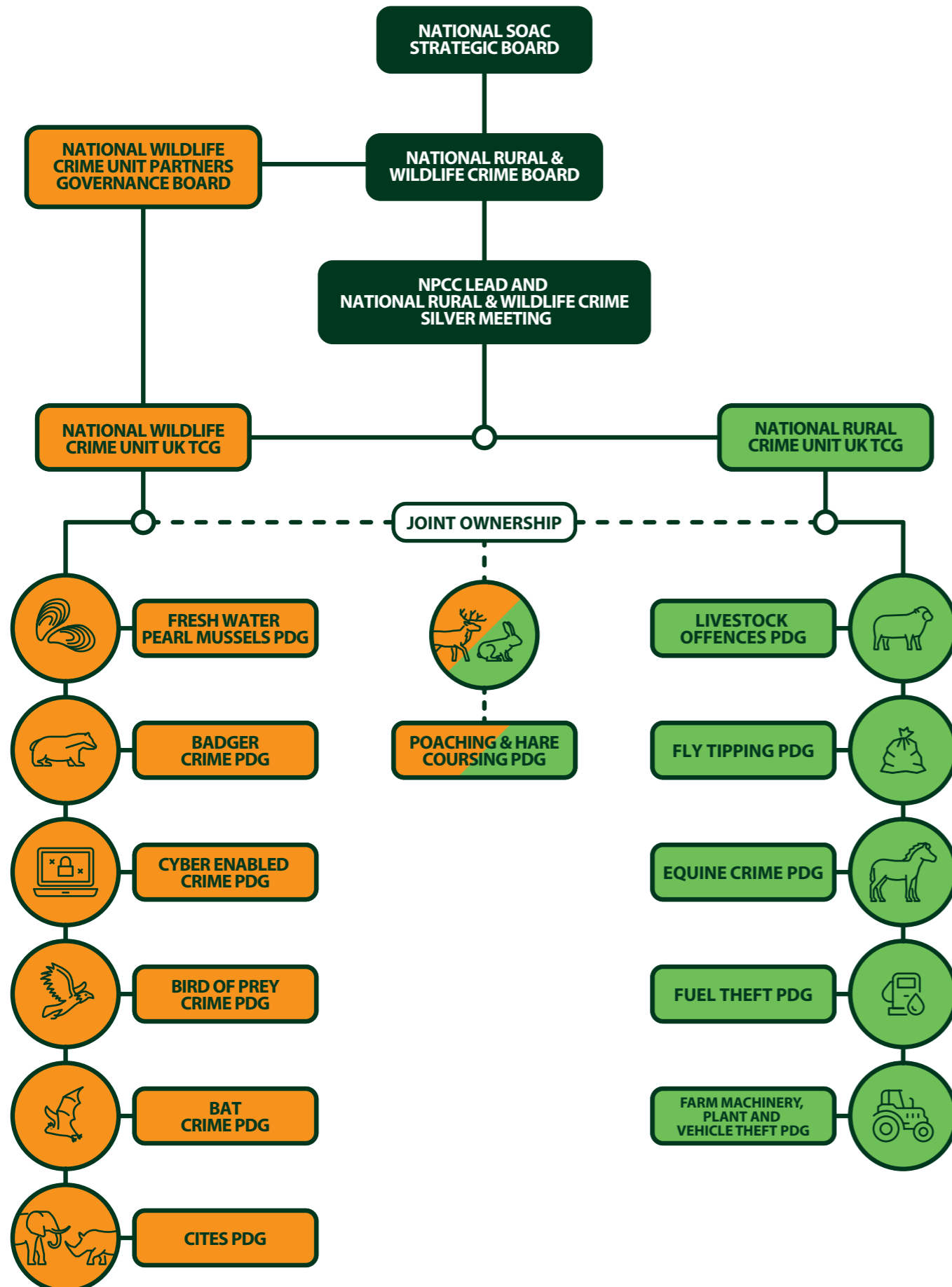
Partnership is also critical to delivery against our strategy and objectives and underpins our 4 Ps approach (Pursue, Prepare, Protect, Prevent).

Through the Priority Delivery Groups, our plans and governance, we will continue to engage widely across groups and organisations involved in tackling rural and wildlife crime.

There are many examples of this undertaking and Partnership for Action against Wildlife Crime (PAW) is an excellent example of the benefits of effective partnerships.

PAW is a collaboration of organisations who work together to reduce wildlife crime through prevention and awareness-raising. PAW augments the UK's approach to wildlife crime via its key working groups: Forensics, Marine and Training & Conference.

# National Rural and Wildlife Crime Governance Structure



# National Wildlife Crime Priority Delivery Groups (PDG)



## FRESH WATER PEARL MUSSEL PDG

Increasing awareness of the threat posed to FWPM by criminality. Helping communities in hotspots to prevent crime and identify offenders.



## BADGER CRIME PDG

Increasing awareness of Badger persecution across the UK.



## CYBER ENABLED CRIME PDG

Raising the profile and increasing awareness of cyber enabled wildlife crime.



## BIRD OF PREY CRIME PDG

Increasing awareness of bird of prey persecution across the UK. Improving and increasing the recording of incidents, crimes and intelligence. Improving the Investigation Process.



## BAT CRIME PDG

Increasing awareness around bat crime. Maximising enforcement of Bat crime across the UK.



## CITES PDG

Increasing awareness around CITES. Supporting the UK and Global enforcement response to IWT.



## POACHING AND HARE COURSING PDG

Seeking to achieve a measurable reduction in poaching and hare coursing.

# National Rural Crime Priority Delivery Groups (PDG)



## LIVESTOCK OFFENCES PDG

Tackling dog attacks on livestock within our farming communities; providing education around responsible dog ownership and improving legislation.



## FLY TIPPING PDG

Reducing Incidents of fly tipping. Understanding and valuing victims of this offence.



## FUEL THEFT PDG

Reducing offending and supporting victims through a network of expert Partners and Police colleagues across the country.



## EQUINE CRIME PDG

Working in partnership to reduce equine crime around horse, trailer and tack theft. Improving our response to fly grazing and neglect.



## FARM MACHINERY, PLANT AND VEHICLE THEFT PDG

Working in partnership with the farming industry, manufacturers, insurers and government to reduce the theft of agricultural machinery.



# PDG Representatives & Contacts

For all Rural and Wildlife Crime enquiries contact:

[UKWildLifeCrime@nwcu.police.uk](mailto:UKWildLifeCrime@nwcu.police.uk)

## National Wildlife Crime Unit

### Freshwater Pearl Mussel PDG

Lead: VACANT

### Bat Crime PDG

Lead: Sgt Shaun Doble (Dyfed Powys)

### CITES PDG

Lead: Liz Down (Border Force)

### Cyber Enabled Wildlife Crime PDG

Lead: DS Mick Walker (Merseyside)

### Badger Crime PDG

Lead: DC Aaron Flint (Lincolnshire)

### Poaching & Hare Coursing PDG

Lead: John Bruce (British Deer Society)  
[Scotland]  
Insp Amy Hunter (North Yorkshire)  
[England & Wales]

### Bird of Prey Crime PDG

Lead: DCS Laura Waddell (Police Scotland)  
[Scotland]  
VACANT [England & Wales]



## National Rural Crime Unit

### Livestock Offences PDG

Lead: Rob Taylor QPM  
(Welsh Government)

### Fuel Theft PDG

Lead: Ian Cox (Norfolk Police)  
Deputy Lead: Chris Holmes (Norfolk Police)

### Farm Machinery, Plant and Vehicle Theft PDG

Lead: Supt Andy Huddleston  
(Northumbria Police)

### Equine Crime PDG

Lead: Insp Korine Bishop  
(Hampshire Police)

### Fly Tipping PDG

Lead: Ismail Djema (Defra)

# References:

- Blakeman, A. (2022) Serious Organised and Acquisitive Crime Strategy 2022-2024: National Police Chief's Council
- Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2021) Rural Proofing in England 2020
- National Farmers' Union Mutual (2021) The Impact on Our Communities – Rural Crime Report 2021
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- National Wildlife Crime Unit (2022) Strategic Assessment
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2021) Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit Report: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland

# Websites:

- [www.nwcu.police.uk](http://www.nwcu.police.uk)
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/partnership-for-action-against-wildlife-crime>
- <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/environment-climate/ICCWC.html>
- <https://www.nationalruralcrimenetwork.net/>