POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

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Knife Crime Concentration Fund Update

Op Broadshield | Peterborough City Centre | September 2026

To	From	Report date
Police Accountability Board	Detective Superintendent Denise Harper	28 September 2026

Executive summary Delivery has moved from scanning and analysis into the response phase. Patrol activity increased substantially in August and remained above July levels in September. Across July to September, 69 patrols delivered 505 hours, 32 arrests, eight stop searches, six weapons recovered or seized and 550 community engagements. The approved SARA (Scanning, Analysis, Response, Assessment) plan focuses activity on youth-related knife crime around Queensgate Bus Station, the leisure quarter and associated travel routes.

1. Command, funding and scope

Role	Current position
Knife Crime Strategic Lead	Detective Superintendent Denise Harper
KCCF Co-ordinator	Sergeant Susie Tinsley
POP plan owner	Inspector Sam Tucker
Analyst	Debbie Kerridge

The KCCF area, locally known as Op Broadshield, covers 0.62 sq. km of Peterborough city centre and accounted for 11% of force knife crime and 13% of non-domestic knife crime between April 2025 and March 2026. The area includes Queensgate Bus Station, principal retail and leisure locations, the Broadway night-time economy, Peterborough Regional College and services supporting vulnerable and street-attached communities.

Funding line	Approved allocation
D/Insp Co-ordinator (cap)	£62,465
Problem-Oriented Policing (POP)	£124,932
Ringfenced NPT PC x2 patrol activity (cap)	£124,930
Total	£312,327

The above outlines funding for an Inspector. Due to long-term sickness this has been resolved by utilising an Inspector and Sergent to cover the shortfall which has been fully discussed and agreed with finance and the Home Office for transparency.

2. Patrol delivery and operational KPIs

The table below records the July, August and September position shown in the supplied performance dashboard. September is presented as the recorded dashboard position available for this report.

KPI	Jul 2026	Aug 2026	Sep 2026	Jul-Sep
Number of patrols	9	33	27	69
Officer patrols	9	23	25	57
PCSO patrols	0	10	2	12
Specials patrols	0	0	0	0
Total hours on patrol	71	229	205	505
Overtime hours	0	0	0	0
Average patrol length (minutes)	473	417	456	439
Arrests	6	13	13	32
Stop and searches	2	4	2	8
Weapons recovered or seized	0	3	3	6
Community engagements	105	266	179	550
PSPOs	0	2	1	3
CPNs or CPWs	0	1	5	6
Closure Notices	0	0	0	0
Other outcomes	0	0	1	1

KPI interpretation August was the highest-volume month, with 33 patrols and 229 hours. September activity remained strong at 27 patrols and 205 hours. Arrests increased from six in July to 13 in August and remained at 13 in September. Six weapons were recovered or seized across August and September. Community engagement totalled 550 across the three months, with the highest monthly volume in August.

3. Updated problem profile

The final SARA plan identifies robberies and violence involving young people aged 15 to 17 as a key driver of knife crime in the Broadshield area. Offending commonly occurs after school and on Saturdays, when young people converge at the bus station, leisure facilities, shops, fast-food outlets and nearby car parks.

- Between June 2023 and May 2026, 23% (42) of sharp-instrument crimes in the Broadshield area involved a suspect or victim aged under 18.
- Knife-enabled robbery accounted for 36% of youth-related offences and violence with injury for 33%.
- Almost one fifth of youth-related knife offences occurred in or around Queensgate Bus Station.
- Peak risk periods are after school, from 15:00 onwards, and Saturdays. Partner information also identifies Friday and Saturday evenings in the leisure quarter as relevant periods.

- The main environmental issues are limited natural guardianship, CCTV and visibility gaps, multiple access and escape routes, gathering spaces in the leisure sector and concealed areas in nearby car parks.

Youth safety insight

The Peterborough Young People's Safety and Belonging Survey received 833 responses between 2 June and 1 July 2026. Almost eight in ten respondents regarded knife crime as serious or very serious. Knife crime, gangs or groups, violence and drug dealing were the most frequently identified reasons for feeling unsafe. The city centre, transport hubs and buses were repeatedly identified as locations of concern. The survey supports a combined approach based on visible reassurance, trusted adults, safer routes, accessible activities and earlier referral pathways.

4. Problem-oriented policing response

The final SARA plan was signed off on 1 September 2026 and the response phase commenced from that date. Delivery is structured around three connected response themes.

Response theme	Planned activity	Intended effect
1. Youth-safe transport and place management	Targeted patrols at school-finish times and Saturdays; improved visibility and access control; joined CCTV; knife-arch and weapon-focused deployments; attention to stairwells and car parks.	Reduce opportunities for violence and robbery, improve detection and make high-risk locations less permissive.
2. Businesses Against Abuse and safe places	Train security, retail, transport and leisure staff to identify vulnerability, knife crime and criminal exploitation; improve intelligence reporting; explore visible safe points.	Create a wider network of capable guardians, increase community intelligence and provide accessible help for young people.
3. Targeted prevention and early intervention	Targeted school programme; multi-agency work around Richard Barnes Academy; outreach with school safeguarding leads, diversion workers and police; better information sharing and youth voice.	Intervene earlier with children at risk, improve referral pathways and reduce the influence of harmful peer networks and exploitation.

Partnership activity and governance

- A monthly police and partner meeting is established with Queensgate, Odeon and Putt & Play to share intelligence, identify problematic individuals and address emerging issues.
- A monthly CBO panel supports joint action on antisocial behaviour with CCTV, council enforcement, safer communities and partner representation.
- A six-weekly multi-agency "Team around Richard Barnes Academy" is planned to improve safeguarding, intelligence sharing and coordinated intervention.
- Performance will be reviewed through monthly Op Broadshield meetings and reported through Serious Violence Duty governance, the High Harms Board, force performance arrangements and the Police Accountability Board.

5. Assessment framework and next steps

Measure	What will be monitored
Crime and harm	Knife-related offences, violence, robbery and incidents within the defined area; changes in hotspot locations; displacement or diffusion.
Enforcement and disruption	Patrol activity, arrests, charges, stop searches, weapons recovered or seized and impact on identified repeat offenders.
Prevention and safeguarding	Referrals to diversion and partner services, safeguarding interventions, engagement with schools and support for children at risk.

Measure	What will be monitored
Partnership capability	Number of partners trained, quality and volume of partnership intelligence, information sharing and confidence to identify CCE and knife-crime risk.
Community confidence	Youth and community survey findings, awareness of support, feelings of safety and reporting through Fearless or other channels.

Planned review points

- Late October 2026: review incident locations and times after the academic half term, including emerging risks associated with the new academic year and seasonal events.
- Monthly: review bus station incidents, patrol KPIs, repeat offenders and partnership intelligence against the baseline.
- November to December 2026: full review of implemented responses, with adaptations made where required to maximise impact.

Board position The programme now has an approved problem profile, defined response plan and measurable assessment framework. Operational activity in August and September has produced sustained patrol hours, 26 arrests and six weapons recovered or seized. The next reporting period should focus on delivery against the three response themes and evidence of change in crime, safeguarding, partnership intelligence and feelings of safety.