

Leadership Exercise Example

Communities, not crime

It is October 2027. Violent crime is increasing in cities across the UK; central Government is



working closely with devolved national Governments and Mayors of Britain's major cities to tackle this. You are a Fast Stream Civil Servant recently seconded to the City Administration in Greater Bircaster, a major UK city.

Greater Bircaster launched an initiative last year, following a sharp increase in the number of murders and violent street attacks in 2024-25. Your assessor will play the role of a more experienced leader who has been asked to

coach and support you through a critical stage of the project. Your job is to lead a project team of three with the specific objectives of:

- Reducing violent offences to keep people safe through preventing anti-social and criminal behaviour, particularly including drug-related crime.
- Strengthening communities – reducing deprivation, building resilient communities and protecting vulnerable people.

You report to the Deputy Mayor for Policing and are due to meet her tomorrow. She is a strong supporter of the initiative and has pledged to decrease violence on the streets. But, there has been media criticism that the initiative offers little new.

You are the second Fast Streamer to lead this team; your predecessor led it for the first year. Your line manager has suggested that you receive some coaching support from a more experienced manager from another part of the organisation, Chris Higson (who will be played by the assessor), to help you talk through the issues and develop ideas and solutions in preparation for your meeting with the Deputy Mayor.