MARCH 2018 Connect Now





The Commissioner meeting Volunteer Police Cadets and Police Officers on Crime Prevention Day

News from the Police and Crime Commissioner

Jason Ablewhite

In this edition, you can find out about what we are doing to improve support for vulnerable people in the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub. The county-wide Hub provides a single contact point for safeguarding concerns and provides a number of different services to children, families and adults at risk.

Being Police and Crime Commissioner puts me in a strong position to both influence and work with other local agencies to move away from crisis management to prevention and support. Far too often, people find themselves falling between the cracks. At last week's Policing Conference, I was privileged to listen to Noel Williams telling his story of being a multiple offender and how intervention helped him turn his life around. Key to my role is driving forward a county-wide agenda to make sure services that support vulnerable people are as effective as possible, to help them lead fulfilling lives - It is imperative that we continue to work together to protect the most vulnerable in our communities.

I was delighted to support Cambridgeshire Constabulary's biggest ever Crime Reduction Day last month. It was a great opportunity to talk to people about the simple steps they can take to keep their property safe. I also attended the launch of Op Velo — a new initiative to reduce the number of casualties involving cyclists on our roads.

Finally I have added my voice to that of other Police and Crime Commissioners to support the proposed Animal Services Bill, known as Finns Law. At the moment the only available charge for someone who attacks a service animal is criminal damage. Our service animals deserve better than this and I will do all I can to make sure the Bill passes through successfully.

Don't forget that I offer one-to-one surgeries if there are any issues you would like to discuss with me – details can be found on page 5.

Many thanks for the feedback on the new design!



Pictured with Chief Constable Alec Wood and the Rural Crime Action Team at last month's Countryside Watch Annual General Meeting.



Supporting the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Rape Crisis Partnership which offers specialist support services to survivors or rape and sexual abuse: https://www.caprcp.org.uk/

Jan Ablenta

OUT AND ABOUT



Visit to Burton Street Mosque

The Commissioner met with representatives of the Muslim community in Peterborough on 'Visit my Mosque Dav'



Crime Prevention Day

Both the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner supported Cambridgeshire Constabulary's Crime Prevention Day in Peterborough, Huntingdon, South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City. Find out more on page 3.

THIS MONTH'S TOP TIPS

Burglary Prevention Advice

Homes without basic security features are five times more likely to be burgled than homes with security. Cambridgeshire Constabulary are advising residents to follow a few simple steps to reduce the chances of becoming a victim, including:

- Lock doors, windows, side gates and outbuildings every time you leave your house, even if you're just out in the garden
- Keep all keys out of sight and away from letterboxes
- Keep ladders and tools stored away
- Install a visible burglar alarm
- Have good outdoor lighting or motion sensor security lights

A secure home will reduce the chance of you getting burgled. But, if you get home and notice signs of a break-in, you can report a burglary to the Constabulary online or by calling 101

To find out more, go to: https://www.cambs.police.uk/A-to-Z

Latest News from the

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Safety operation to reduce cycle casualties on county's roads

A new safety operation aimed at reducing the number of collisions involving cyclists on the county's roads was launched in Cambridge last month.

The Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Road Policing Unit launched **Operation Velo**, an initiative dedicated to reducing cycle casualties on the road through education and promotion of behavioural change, at three locations in Cambridge City on Thursday 22nd February.

A plain-clothed police officer patrolled major routes across the city centre identifying drivers who do not adopt a 'safe pass' approach.

"Too many lives have been affected by inconsiderate and dangerous road use. Over the past year, I have listened to the concerns of road users and introduced a number of measures to make sure everyone, whether drivers, cyclists or pedestrians can be kept as safe as possible"

In addition, the operation also actively sought opportunities to enforce the 'Fatal 4' offences of drink and drug driving, using a mobile phone at the wheel, failing to wear a seatbelt and speeding. Any motorists caught flouting these could face prosecution.

The officers also looked at cyclists' behaviour and offered safety advice to any who put themselves at risk by disobeying traffic signs and red lights, failing to use lights in the hours of darkness and cycling recklessly.

The scheme has been devised with the support of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Road Safety Partnership and Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service Community Champions.

Operation Velo is initially being launched in Cambridge city centre with plans to roll it out across the county as well as Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire in the future.

Working together to safeguard the vulnerable

The Police and Crime Commissioner visited the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub, known as the MASH on 14th February, with John Holdich, Leader of Peterborough City Council, and Steve Count, Leader of Cambridgeshire County Council. The MASH offers a single point of contact for safeguarding concerns about vulnerable individuals and provides a number of different services to children, families and adults across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It brings together experts who provide a secure and confidential environment for professionals to share information. Taken in isolation, these referrals may not appear concerning to an individual organisation, however, by working together, agencies are able to share information, identify those at the highest risk and allow them to take collective action.

The unit contains specialist advisors to support victims, or potential victims, of crime, abuse or neglect.

"The hub is a fantastic example of how different agencies working together from a central location can help safeguard those most at risk of abuse"

Over 1,000 positive actions recorded on Crime Prevention Day

Over 5,000 crime prevention leaflets, 4,000 security products, 80 PCSOs, 40 officers, 20 cadets, 12 Specials, eight crime prevention officers and five senior officers resulted in one enormous day of action on Wednesday 21st February.

Operation Oculus, the force's biggest ever crime prevention day recorded over 1,000 positive actions, including almost 300 bikes being security marked, 300 sign-ups to immobilise.com, (the UK National Property register), 50 sign-ups to ECops, (the Police Alert service) and 25 shed surveys.



Superintendent James Sutherland, who led on the operation, said: "While we work tirelessly to attack criminality, it is vital that we use every opportunity we can from preventing it happening in the first place and Op Oculus was a textbook example of that."

"Both Deputy Commissioner Ray Bisby & I were delighted to support the many events going on around Cambridgeshire, and I want to personally thank every officer, PCSO, Special and cadet who helped make this the biggest crime prevention operation we have ever seen in Cambridgeshire"

Commissioner welcomes young leaders to police headquarters

Members of the Godmanchester Youth Council were invited by the Police Commissioner to tour Cambridgeshire Constabulary Headquarters last month.

The group of seven Youth Councillors, visited the Force Control Room and Bedfordshire Police, Cambridgeshire Constabulary and Hertfordshire Police (BCH) Dog Unit, where they witnessed a search demonstration by a drug detection dog. The Councillors were also able to visit the BCH Roads Policing Unit, where they gained hands-on experience with equipment such as the handheld speed gun and police patrol vehicles.

It is important that the voice of the next generation is not lost as we continue to work towards a more efficient and effective force for everyone in Cambridgeshire

Commissioner meets first Drive iQ graduates



Congratulations to Sawtry Village College's Drive iQ graduates. Drive IQ is an online learning toolkit for young drivers to help them become safer drivers when they pass their test. You can read more about the scheme here: http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.qov.uk/police-commissioner-fund-online-learning-toolkit-young-drivers/

My response to HMICFRS and HMIP's report into custody provision

A joint unannounced inspection, carried out by HM Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) and HM Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) has found the way custody provision is operated in Cambridgeshire to be positive. Police Commissioner, Jason Ablewhite welcomed the report.

""The report highlights the commitment of officers and staff in making sure those coming into custody, particularly the most vulnerable, are treated with respect. There is still more work to be done, particularly around collaborative arrangements for custody services however it is reassuring that the practices used in Cambridgeshire have been highlighted as examples of good practice."

The Commissioner manages a team of Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs) who make unannounced visits to custody suites checking on the rights and welfare on detainees. To find out more visit:

http://www.cambridgeshirepcc.gov.uk/volunteer-schemes/independentcustody-visitors-scheme/



Thorpe Wood Custody Suite was featured on the Channel 4 programme '24 Hours in Police Custody' on Monday 5th March. You can catch up here: http://www.channel4.com/programmes/24-hours-in-police-custody

WHAT'S NEW IN THE CONSTABULARY?



Have you seen the Constabulary's new website?

Cambridgeshire Constabulary have launched a brand new website with a range of innovative tools to help you communicate your issues.

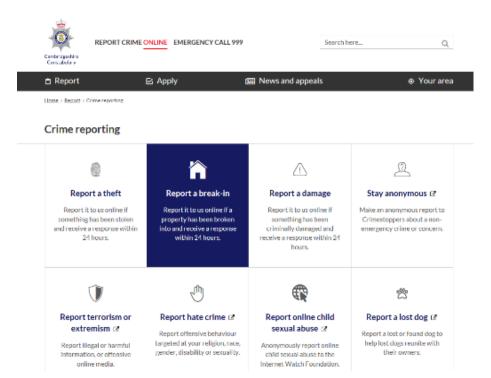
The website now has added functionality to report non-emergencies via specially designed forms.

Amongst the updated features is a web-chat service, which allows visitors to chat directly with 101 operators alongside specialist reporting tools, for example:

- Road traffic collision reporting
- Dangerous driving reporting (anti-social)
- Non-emergency crime reporting
- Concern reporting (intelligence)

The website also features up-to-date accessibility features such as ReciteMe; an accessibility tool that allows the website to be adapted for users with visual impairments or language preferences.

Chief Constable Alec Wood said: "It's great to see the force moving in line with the modern world. The new site will help us communicate and engage with the public in a modern and effective way and accommodate those who prefer to self-serve and interact with us online rather than via 101."



Reporting non-emergencies online

Non-emergency situations can now be reported to the police online if people would rather do so than call 101.

The live webchat option enables people to communicate directly with a member of staff in the control room, just as would be the case when calling 101. Online forms are processed in the same way as a call and the person reporting can expect a response within 24 hours.

Due to the high level of demand there are often queues when calling 101. Reporting online is quick, easy and free of charge

Superintendent James Sutherland said: "In the digital age people are doing more and more online. I'm pleased that our website now has increased capability to allow people to contact us in this way.

"The system went through a thorough testing process and has been used successfully thousands of times since being introduced. Feedback from a recent survey suggested that some people wanted to communicate directly with a person rather than submitting an online form. The webchat function allows people to do exactly that."

"Reports submitted online are treated in the same way as when people call 101 and will receive the same outcome."

To view the online reporting section of the constabulary's website visit www.cambs. police.uk/report/. The live webchat function is available by clicking on the green icon on the bottom right of the page.

SP_TLIGHT ON: Neighbourhood Watch

This month, we are taking a closer look at the great work done by the county's Neighbourhood Watch volunteers.

Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) was formed in November 1998 to promote greater public participation in the prevention and solving of crime and to encourage closer liaison with the Constabulary.

The cornerstone of NHW work remains helping to inform local people, building a local intelligence picture and assisting the Constabulary.

Over 2,000
Neighbourhood Watch
Coordinators are now
registered with the
Constabulary

Alan Paul, Information and Communications Representative for Peterborough Neighbourhood Watch explains:

"Over the past year, we have organised a number of initiatives to better inform local people about how to keep themselves safe, as well as providing local intelligence to the police."

Among the initiatives are:

The Peterborough group launched a shop selling crime prevention items in December 2017: a sales sheet was circulated to all 320 coordinators for people to make orders. Costs are kept low with a minimal profit going to cover packing and post. All funds go into buying further supplies.

NHW Volunteers in Longthorpe recently received an Ecops alert message from the police providing a description of an active



burglar in the area. A week later one member saw a male answering the description. The member phoned the police and an unmarked police car arrived to catch the perpetrator who is now serving time.

The Constabulary

Last year, the Force appointed Mike Brooks, a Force-wide Watch Coordinator to support all watch groups. The Force also recently launched a new NHW partnership offering volunteers training on how to complete home safety surveys to enable groups to offer up to date advice to victims of burglary.



Pictured with Mike Brooks, Force-wide Watch Coordinator, following his appointment last year.

Safer, Attractive & Friendlier

Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood Watch is all about local people working together to create safer, attractive and friendly places to live, places where crime is less likely to happen and people are less likely to turn to anti-social behaviour.

"I am proud to support our NHW groups and am grateful for everything they do to help make our communities safer. At a time of unprecedented demand for the police, the support they provide is invaluable"

If you are interested in finding out more about NHW or to set up a new group in your area, visit www.cambsnhw.org.uk and select 'contact us'. They will ask your local Area Coordinator to make contact with you.

Getting in touch:

It's important that the Commissioner and his team represent your views, so if you want to get in touch please do. The Commissioner is here to represent you and to make sure your voice is heard.

You can write to the OPCC:

Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

PO Box 688 Huntingdon

PE29 9LA

Email: cambs-pcc@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Or phone: 0300 333 3456



Unfortunately, the planned **Modern Slavery Summit** arranged for Saturday 3rd March had to be postponed due to the bad weather. The Commissioner was due to speak about what is being done to tackle modern slavery in Cambridgeshire. Full details can be accessed via the link below and the date will be confirmed on our website asap:

http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/cambridgechurch-host-modern-slavery-summit/

Follow us online!

Are you on social media? Keep up to date with the Commissioner's activities by following us on:



- CambsPCC



- PCCCambs



- pcccambs



Book a surgery appointment

The Police and Crime Commissioner, offers regular one-to- one meetings across the county. Surgeries are held in the second week of every month, and are rotated around the county in order to provide a location suitable for everyone. If you have an issue you would like to discuss, you can book a 15 minute appointment.

Please email: cambs-pcc@cambs.pnn.police.uk or phone **0300 333 3456** to make an appointment:

Upcoming 2018 surgery dates

April 5 th	Ely Police Station	9:00 - 11:00
May 9 th	Police HQ Huntingdon	9:00 - 11:00
June 6 th	Parkside Police Station	9:00 - 11:00
July 11 th	Cambourne Police Station	9:00 - 11:00
August 9 th	Wisbech Police Station	9:00 - 11:00
September 5 th	Thorpe Wood Station	9:00 - 11:00

FIND OUT MORE HERE:

<u>CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE</u> <u>CAMBRIDGESHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH</u> <u>SPEEDWATCH</u> <u>POLICE UK</u> <u>COUNTRYSIDE WATCH</u> <u>E-COPS</u>

CRIMESTOPPERS UK GOVERNMENT SERVICES NATIONAL FRAUD CENTRE CAMBRIDGESHIRE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION VICTIMS AND WITNESS HUB