



IN THIS ISSUE



News from the Police and Crime Commissioner
Jason Ablewhite

As the days get shorter and colder we're all reaching for extra layers and turning the heating on to keep out the chill. This time of year always reminds us of the desperate plight of homeless people who face the harsh winter months living out on our streets.

A few weeks ago, I was approached by a homeless man for money in Peterborough. My initial reaction was to apologise and say I hadn't any change as agencies supporting the homeless say it doesn't help get people off the streets. However, his polite manner changed my mind. I gave him my change and we had a brief chat. He told me that drugs had led to his downward spiral onto the streets. He once had a family, a job and a home but his drug addiction left him with nothing. Afterwards I reflected sadly how one day this man would likely be a statistic of drug misuse in our community.

Tackling drug abuse and drug dealing is not just an issue for the police. Every one of us can help rid the scourge of drugs from our streets. From educating our young people about the dangers of drugs

to reporting signs of drug dealing in our communities, together we can help the police catch those responsible and take action to break the cycle. See our top tips on page 2.

I welcome the Government's announced funding for 20,000 new police officers which will see Cambridgeshire and Peterborough receive an extra 62 over the next 12 months. This significant uplift will help the constabulary deal with increased demand for services and invest more in preventative work.

The police cannot be everywhere. They need your support so please get involved, whether that's reporting crimes, providing intelligence to assist in bringing offenders to justice or giving information to help safeguard the vulnerable.

Finally, I hope you enjoy this newsletter and if there's a topic you would like us to cover in future issues please do get in touch.



Welcoming businesses to a scam awareness business event with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership



Welcoming 12 new volunteers who trained as Independent Custody Visitors



Signing a 'spotty' car for this year's Children in Need effort

OUT & ABOUT



Supporting Magpas Air Ambulance to raise vital funds



Attending award ceremony with Chief Constable Nick Dean



Attending HRH Princess Anne's visit to the Museum of Armed Policing in Chatteris



Visiting Fen Drayton School to join a Life Education session

Latest news from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Could you spot the signs of modern day slavery?

From the sexual exploitation of children to people who are being threatened with violence and made to work against their will, these are just two examples of modern day slavery happening today.

Victims can often show signs of physical or psychological abuse, fear authorities, and carry out irregular activity at homes or other addresses.

In Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, victims are able to receive free emotional and practical support from Specialist Victim and Witness Care Co-ordinators.

Businesses in Cambridgeshire will be given help to spot the signs of modern day slavery at an event hosted by Cambridgeshire's Victim and Witness Hub. The event is being funded by a grant from the Modern Slavery Police Transformation Fund to help local businesses such as factories and recruitment agencies understand what to look for and how to report concerns about potential victims within their workforce.

If you suspect someone is being exploited or is a victim of modern slavery in Cambridgeshire, report it by calling 101 or reporting on-line below.

More information on modern slavery and advice on how to spot the signs can be found at: <https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/local-businesses-helped-to-spot-the-signs-of-modern-day-slavery/>.

Keeping our courts open

Police and Crime Commissioner, Jason Ablewhite has reassured communities that the county's three court houses are safe from closure, following a campaign to keep Cambridge Magistrates' Court open last year.

The Commissioner said: "Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service (HMCTS) confirmed there are no current plans to close any of our county's courts.

"Whilst there are excellent examples of shared Justice Hubs across the country, we can be reassured that there are no imminent changes in spite of an ongoing court review.

"I will always be open to discussing the potential for shared service locations. However, it is important that any changes meet current need and involve all relevant partners in discussions. The courts involved are Cambridge Magistrates' Court, Huntingdon Law Court and Peterborough Magistrates' Court."

Young people urged to take driving seat in online course



Teenagers who are starting to think about learning to drive are being urged to register for an online driving programme.

Cambs Drive iQ's online learning platform is designed for students aged 16 and above and aims to help reduce the number of young people involved in incidents and collisions on the roads.

Last year more than 3,300 students, in 22 schools and colleges from across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, took the course, delivered by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Road Safety Partnership. Students who complete a minimum of eight modules will automatically be entered into a lucky draw for either a free two-hour driving session or a chance to spend a day with Blue Light Services.

Cambs Drive iQ was funded by a £67,000 grant (for 3 years) from the Police and Crime Commissioner's Road Safety Casualty Reduction and Support Fund.

The Commissioner said: "Cambs Drive iQ engages with young people from the start, preparing them for the potential challenges they may face whilst driving. It should arm young drivers with everything they need to know to stay safe on the roads."

For more information visit: <https://www.cambsdriveiq.co.uk/>

2,000 people helping to keep roads safer

Two thousand people in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have been helping to keep our roads safer after training as speed watch volunteers.

The Commissioner joined Speedwatch volunteers in Cambourne, in South Cambridgeshire, earlier this month to welcome the community scheme's 2000th volunteer.



Community Speedwatch trains volunteers to get actively involved in monitoring the speed of vehicles travelling through their neighbourhoods.

Treatment project to prevent vulnerable people from reoffending

A treatment programme to help stop vulnerable women offenders from spiralling into a cycle of crime has been launched in Peterborough. The new project, known as Mental Health Treatment Requirements, is aimed at reducing the rates of re-offending amongst women who are likely to be sentenced to short spells in prison.

It's funded by NHS England, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and national and local probation services.

Two new members of staff, a part-time clinical psychologist and a full-time assistant psychologist are being employed by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust who will assess women for mental ill-health issues or learning disabilities when they enter the criminal justice system.

The aim is to help them break the cycle of their behaviour or prevent them reaching crisis point by allowing access to appropriate services as quickly as possible.

Police and Crime Commissioner, Jason Ablewhite who has contributed £20,000 to the scheme, said: "It's vital that agencies across health and justice work more closely together to ensure offenders have the right support, at the right time and in the right setting, so they are less likely to reoffend.

"This targeted mental health treatment of vulnerable offenders will help divert people towards community sentences where they will receive treatment for mental health issues, often found to be the root cause of their offending behaviour."

The assistant psychologist will be based at Peterborough Magistrates' Court and will provide women with assessment and primary mental health interventions tailored to their needs for at least six to 12 sessions.

New volunteers check out custody conditions

Twelve new volunteers have been trained as Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs). The volunteers monitor how people are treated after they have been arrested and detained and feedback to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Commissioner said: "There was a fantastic response to the recruitment campaign and I'm delighted and very proud to welcome our new Independent Custody Visitors. They are from a range of backgrounds and they bring a wide range of skills to the scheme.

"Our current, experienced volunteers must also be commended for their outstanding dedication in helping to interview and train the new volunteers, while not missing a single planned visit. Becoming an ICV is a unique opportunity to see the inner workings of part of the criminal justice system."

To Find out more, go to:

<https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/volunteer-schemes/independent-custody-visitors-scheme/>

THIS MONTH'S TOP TIPS

How to spot drug dealing in your community

Drugs and drug related crime has a negative impact on our communities and drug use can harm the health and safety of residents. Therefore it's important we all learn to spot the signs of drug activity and how to report it to the police.

- If there are vulnerable people living close-by and you notice more people are suddenly living at their address it could be a drug dealer has taken over their home. Look out for:
- Lots of different people coming and going from an address
- People coming and going at odd times of the day and night
- Strange smells coming from the property
- Windows covered or curtains closed all the time
- Cars pulling up to or near the house for a short period of time.
- Is there someone in your community with too much bling? If you notice someone who appears to be living beyond their means and enjoying a lavish lifestyle without apparently earning the means to finance it they could be making money from drug dealing.
- Drug dealing groups often use young people to deliver their drugs, by paying them or by forcing them through violence and grooming. They target children in care, children absent from school, children missing from home and single parents on low incomes. These young people, known as 'runners', are usually male and aged between 12 and 20 and travel between cities and other areas to deliver drugs and collect cash on behalf of the dealers.
- You may not see drug runners with drugs but signs of drug dealing include large amounts of cash or lots of mobile phones - usually cheap pay-as-you-go types.

If you suspect drug dealing may be taking place in your community, call **101** or **999** when a crime is taking place or someone is in danger or report on-line at: <https://www.cambs.police.uk/report>

Spotlight on: PREVENTION

Solving crimes is a major part of the police's role but it is not the only one. The police also play a major role in preventing crime writes Police and Crime Commissioner Jason Ablewhite ...

When budgets are tighter and demands are high it is really important we look for innovative ways to prevent crime or be faced with the escalating bill of solving it.

As one of America's founding fathers, Benjamin Franklin, famously said, 'an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.'

So I warmly welcome the Chancellor's announced funding for additional officers in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough because it means we can meet increased demand for our services, cut crime, provide better outcomes for victims and invest more in preventative work.

Since I was elected as Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough three years ago, I've spoken to thousands of residents, businesses and organisations from our very different cities, towns, villages and rural communities to understand the issues you care about the most.

One of the things I hear all the time is a desire for more visible officers.

It is why this year we asked you to pay more council tax for policing so we can increase the number of neighbourhood officers working in the communities in which you live.

This month 30 new officers are settling into new neighbourhood policing roles and by January a further 20 will have joined them working in local areas to solve those local issues and prevent crime.

Neighbourhood policing plays a pivotal role in prevention. Being based at the heart of communities means those officers can understand the issues and work with Neighbourhood Watch, youth groups, residents' associations and other community champions to



30 new neighbourhood officers settling into their posts

look for ways they can support each other to discourage and prevent crime happening there.

There is already some fantastic preventative work happening such as the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership (CAPASP) which brings together more than 20 organisations including the police, councils and community groups to raise awareness about scams and support victims.

There's also our project to prevent knife crime, thanks to a successful bid for £385,000 from the Home Office with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Youth Offending Service. The grant is funding a team of specialist workers to support young people with complex needs who are at significant risk of criminal exploitation and youth violence and getting involved in knife crime.

We can all play a part in preventing crime and keeping Cambridgeshire safe.

The police cannot be everywhere all the time. They need your support so please get involved whether that's reporting crimes, providing intelligence to assist in bringing offenders to justice or giving information to help safeguard the vulnerable.

People often talk of the halcyon days of a bygone era when neighbours watched out for children and everyone looked out for each other. Times may have changed but the basic principle is still relevant today.

Join your local groups on Facebook and follow local organisations on Instagram or Twitter, it's amazing the information that you will pick up. Get involved in your local community and encourage your families, friends and neighbours to do the same.

Keep your eyes and ears open to what is going on around you and if you think you have a skill or an idea on how issues could be tackled, get in touch with me I want to hear about it.

As communities we will always be stronger if we work together than we ever are when we go it alone.

As one of America's founding fathers, Benjamin Franklin, famously said, 'an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.'

More than £40k granted to youth projects by Police Commissioner

Over the last six months, Police and Crime Commissioner, Jason Ablewhite has funded 16 projects helping young people across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to get involved in their local communities.

The Commissioner's Youth and Community Fund, now in its 4th year, supports young people to actively participate and contribute to their communities, helping them to become positive citizens and lead more fulfilling lives.

From supporting young people through football to understand the dangers of carrying knives, to setting up a boxing programme at Trumpington Community College, the Commissioner is funding grass roots projects to help improve the lives of young people.

Other projects include Peterborough's Right Resolution CIC who received £3,000 to help care leavers into further education or training; £3,000 also went to The Muslim Council of Peterborough to provide safeguarding training to raise awareness of the signs of child abuse and Friends of Life Education received £3,000 to support the delivery of age appropriate drug and health programmes.

"Being able to help young people support themselves and others in their community is a great privilege", explains the Commissioner.

"Only last week, I joined a group of year 6 pupils at Fen Drayton Primary School actively participating in a Life Education session. The interactive sessions, provided by Cambridgeshire PSHE Services are a fantastic way of introducing youngsters to making positive choices about what they put in their bodies. I was impressed by the questions and level of understanding already in the minds of the young people taking part.

"I always talk about the importance of having early conversations with young people to make sure they have all the information they need to be able to protect themselves from falling victim to issues such drug and alcohol misuse, which can potentially lead to criminality."



The Fund is open to voluntary and community organisations who can apply for grants of up to £3,000 towards their project. More information about the terms and conditions of the funding can be found at: <https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/funding/>

Teaching businesses to avoid scams

A partnership set up to stamp out scams and doorstep crime across Cambridgeshire has been teaching local businesses how to protect themselves against cybercrime.

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership (CAPASP) and Barclays held the free workshop for more than 40 companies last month to advise on how to avoid crimes such as ransomware and data theft. The partnership has also provided scam awareness training to communities and helped to train SCAM champions to support local residents.

CAPASP is made up of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, local councils, Age UK, Citizens Advice and Neighbourhood Watch and was launched nine months ago to raise awareness about scams and support victims of scams. Police and Crime Commissioner Jason Ablewhite, said: "Last year in Cambridgeshire, the local economy lost over £15m to cybercrime. Online crime can be easily prevented by taking cyber security precautions. I'm pleased to see CAPASP going from strength to strength, working hard to make our county scam-free."



CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH
AGAINST SCAMS PARTNERSHIP

To find out more see <https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/capasp>

'Celebrating Us' hate crime event a huge success

Cambridgeshire Constabulary recently hosted an evening of celebration for minority groups across the county.

Held at force headquarters in Huntingdon on 17 October, the Celebrating Us event brought together representatives from charities and organisations including Little People UK, Terrence Higgins Trust and Guide Dogs. The crowd gathered to hear speeches by the Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Constable and an inspirational talk from StopHateUK trustee Graham Lewis.

The event offered reassurance to those who have experienced hate that the force stands with them and will do all it can to stamp it out and bring offenders to justice.

Recent Home Office figures have shown an increase of 10 per cent in hate crime reporting across the country over the past year, with a particularly worrying spike in reports of homophobic hate crimes.

PCC Jason Ablewhite said: "While it is extremely concerning to see these statistics, we are pleased that more people are coming forward to report these crimes.

"For many generations, minority groups have come to accept the hate directed towards them but this is not acceptable.

"Hate crime has many forms and can be verbal or physical. It can have a devastating impact on victims who often feel helpless and desolate.

"There is no room for hate here. We live in a wonderfully diverse county and it's our many differences that make Cambridgeshire such a great place to live, work and thrive."

The evening drew to a close with a buffet and plenty of networking - a hive of activity, of celebration, laughter and people sharing their stories.

The force urges people to report hate crime by calling 101 or report it online: <https://www.met.police.uk/true-vision-report-hate-crime/>.

News from the CONSTABULARY

Chief's Column

Since my last column the Government has launched its campaign to recruit 20,000 new police officers and more recently the Home Office has announced a target of 62 officers for Cambridgeshire in the first year.

Any increase in officer numbers will of course be good news for Cambridgeshire and it will allow me to provide the public with an enhanced policing service. We will be looking closely in the coming weeks and months at how we can best make use of this investment in resources to keep our communities safe.

I have already committed extra resources to policing our neighbourhoods and in September the first 30 of 50 new neighbourhood police officers began settling into their posts, with the remaining being filled in January. I have already seen and heard positive stories of their impact.

I have said many times that neighbourhood policing is at the heart of everything we do and building trust and confidence within our communities is vital. With regards to the national uplift programme, we have launched our own recruitment campaign and I would urge anyone who wants a career with Cambridgeshire Constabulary, where they can really make a difference, to seriously consider applying to become a police officer.

Passing out ceremonies (where new constables parade in front of their family and friends) are coming thick and fast and at the end of September the 15 new recruits I welcomed to the policing family brought the number who had passed out since my last column in the summer to 60. There's no job like it (but then I am biased!).

Meanwhile, there has been some excellent police work in the past few months. Officers arrested two men and safeguarded nine women as part of a nationwide crackdown on sexual exploitation linked to human trafficking and modern day slavery. They visited four premises in Peterborough and three in Cambridge in connection with suspected exploitation of women who, it was suspected, were being forced to operate as sex workers.

Our Rural Crime Action Team (RCAT) dismantled 39 cannabis factories and seized plants worth more than £1 million in a busy summer of crime enforcement. They also secured 30 prosecutions for various offences, ranging from supplying or producing class A and B drugs to poaching and possession of firearms, and seized 42 vehicles for being stolen or having no insurance or tax. And I can also report that county lines drug dealers across the south of the county have been jailed for a total of more than 100 years. The Southern Impact Team achieved the convictions in just over a year, since they formed in May 2018. They've made more than 134 arrests and seized cash and drugs worth more than £160,000. This activity against county lines is not contained to the south, it expands right across the county and our work regionally and nationally continues to achieve impressive results.

It's an exciting time to be in policing and there's never been a better time to join our family.



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire



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 us here:

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**



Getting in touch:

The 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 2019 surgery dates

November 4th	PCC's office, Cambridgeshire Police Headquarters, Huntingdon	09:30-11:30am
December 4th	Parkside Police Station, Cambridge	10:00am-12:00pm

Are you online?

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



- CambsPCC



- PCCCambs



- pcccambs

FIND OUT MORE BY CLICKING:

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

SPEEDWATCH

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CRIMESTOPPERS UK

GOVERNMENT SERVICES

NATIONAL FRAUD CENTRE

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

VICTIM SERVICES