



## A warm welcome to my spring newsletter.

**As Acting Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, I am pleased to present my newsletter which updates you on my news and activities.**

In this edition, you can read about some of the major transformational work that has been undertaken in the county. This includes the very recent decision by South Cambridgeshire District Council to approve the Constabulary's planning application to build a new police station for Cambridge and the south of the county.

The new station will enable the Constabulary to further modernise its services, meet increasing operational need whilst ensuring it provides adequate custody provision. I would like to thank all of you who participated in the various consultations that have taken place.

You can also read about the additional funding awarded to the 'Safe' team set up within the county's Youth Offending Service to support young people at risk of criminal exploitation and violence.

As we begin to emerge from another lockdown, I would like to thank the vast majority of people across Cambridgeshire for their continued diligence in adhering to lockdown rules and public health advice.

Preventing the spread of coronavirus remains a shared effort with each of us having a personal responsibility to follow the rules and limit the outbreak. I also want to say how incredibly proud I am of all our police officers, staff and volunteers who have been working tirelessly to support communities throughout this crisis.

Many of you will be aware that my term in office comes to an end following the election of a new Commissioner on 6<sup>th</sup> May.

I took over as Acting Commissioner in November 2019 and could never have predicted what the following months would bring.

That said, I have been pleased to be able to fulfill the role representing communities across Cambridgeshire over the last 16 challenging months.

Whilst we have had to work differently over this period, we have seen police officer numbers increase to record levels, additional funding worth £983K brought in to support victims during the pandemic and the launch of the Vision Zero Partnership to focus on road safety.

More information about the role of Police and Crime Commissioners can be found on my website: [www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk).

*Ray Bisby*

*Acting Police and Crime Commissioner*



## COMMUNITIES ACROSS CAMBRIDGESHIRE SET TO BENEFIT FROM ENHANCED POLICE SERVICE

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People living in Cambridgeshire can expect an enhanced service from Cambridgeshire Constabulary following public support for an increase in the policing part of council tax for 2021/22.

This follows a decision by the Commissioner to increase the policing part of council tax (known as the 'precept') by £1.25 per month (based on a Band D property).

The increase in funding means the Chief Constable can now improve and enhance a number of services to ensure the local service continues to meet growing demand.

The Commissioner asked members of the public through a recent on-line survey whether they thought his proposed increase was value for money - a total of 1,270 people responded to the survey online with the majority (70.06%) agreeing that it was.

**“I would like to thank all those who took the time to provide their views. Whilst the pandemic continues to dominate our lives, and our officers continue to work tirelessly to keep us safe, it's vital that the Chief Constable has the resources he needs to be able to protect our communities.”**

*Ray Bisby, Acting Police and Crime Commissioner*

The funding will see the following services boosted: an increase in call handlers, additional cyber/online prevention officers and digital media investigators, additional capacity for handling digital contact from the public, an increase in support for responding to calls for service from vulnerable people and additional support for the development of frontline officers.

For more information and a breakdown of the increase per household band please visit: [www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk).



## From mobile youth clubs to floodlights: Police Commissioner announces further funding to support young people

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Acting Commissioner, Ray Bisby, has announced funding worth over £10,000 to the latest recipients of his Youth and Community Fund.

The projects, based all over Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, all receive funding to support young people to make positive contributions in their communities and to participate in activities that increase their confidence and skills.

Some of the projects awarded were:

- **Diamond Hampers** for moving boxes which contain essentials for care leavers moving to live independently for the first time.
- **Peterborough Care Leavers** to provide young people leaving the care system with bikes and safety equipment so they can travel to work and/or education independently.
- **Parkside Athletic Football Club** for new floodlights to enable year round training for young people.
- **Abbey People** for a mobile youth club in Cambridge which will also run as a 'Coffee Truck' social enterprise. It will enable young people to gain barista training, food hygiene training and work experience.

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 [here](#).

“ My Youth and Community Fund is now in its 6th year of supporting projects across the county. It enables diversionary grassroots projects get off the ground and encourages young people to engage more with their communities and learn new skills along the way. ”

*Acting Police and Crime Commissioner, Ray Bisby*



## Creating a safer Cambridgeshire

### PLANS FOR NEW POLICING STATION GRANTED APPROVAL

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Plans to build a new police station on the outskirts of Milton have been given the go ahead.

Cambridgeshire Constabulary submitted an application to Greater Cambridge Shared Planning in September last year for the new premises, which will enhance the service for the south of Cambridgeshire, by replacing the outdated facilities at Parkside Police Station with a modern police station.

The application followed two extensive consultations with members of the public and stakeholders, in conjunction with the Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner, in February and July last year. The new building will be situated next to the Park & Ride facility in Milton and will include:

- Enhanced facilities enabling the Constabulary to respond to, and investigate, complex crimes such as fraud and online investigations more effectively.
- Enhanced facilities allowing for the increased use of virtual courts which reduces the need for travel to courts
- Increase in cell provision from 12 to 24 to help meet future demand
- The facilities and ability to better meet demand as population growth continues
- Better road access, subject to less traffic, enabling officers to respond to calls for service more efficiently

Planning consent was granted by South Cambridgeshire District Council on March 10<sup>th</sup> subject to confirmation from the Secretary of State.

**“We are extremely excited about the new development and the opportunities it will provide us, including adequate cell provision, which will inevitably reduce travel and time costs allowing our officers to spend more time on patrol. ”**

*Area Commander for the south of Cambridgeshire, Superintendent James Sutherland*

The Constabulary understands there is significant demand for there to be a police station and enquiry office in Cambridge city centre, to act as a base for the city centre policing team, and are committed to providing that. Options are currently being explored, including sharing facilities with other public sector partners. Further details will be provided in due course.



## New CEO appointed for Police Commissioner's Office

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ACTING Police and Crime Commissioner, Ray Bisby has announced the appointment of Jim Haylett as new Chief Executive for his office, following a Confirmation Hearing held by Cambridgeshire's Police and Crime Panel in which his proposed appointment was supported.

Mr Haylett took over as Acting Chief Executive of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) in May 2020 when his predecessor, Dorothy Gregson moved to Public Health England to support the regional response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Previous to holding the Acting CEO position, Mr Haylett held several positions within the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner since joining in 2013, including Deputy Chief Executive. Previous to joining the OPCC, he served as a police officer in South Yorkshire Police.

The last 12 months have brought unprecedented challenges to policing, with the onslaught of the pandemic and the need to respond to frequently changing legislation. Jim brings with him a wealth of strategic experience particularly within the areas of community safety and criminal justice, having worked on behalf of three Police and Crime Commissioners representing them at national, regional and local governance and Board meetings.

**“ Since May last year, Jim has provided consistent and stable leadership to staff within my office and has supported me in my role as Acting Commissioner. ”**

*Ray Bisby, Acting Police and Crime Commissioner*

He has also developed a strong relationship with the Chief Constable and the team within the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and has demonstrated an ability to both manage and influence the strategic direction and organisational management of the Constabulary and assist the Acting Commissioner in the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan.

Dorothy Gregson, former Chief Executive of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner took up a secondment opportunity at Public Health England in May 2020 and was offered a permanent position in November 2020.

Mr Bisby continues: “I would like to thank Dorothy for the enormous contribution she has made over the years in managing my office, supporting myself and my two predecessors to drive

forward Police and Crime Plan goals. Her passion, energy and dedication played a huge part in keeping our policing service as effective and efficient as it is today.”



# NEWS from the CONSTABULARY

## Chief Constable Nick Dean writes...

We continue to find ourselves policing in an extremely difficult climate, as we manage another national lockdown and move forward with the Prime Minister's four step plan over the coming months. And while none of us would have predicted 12 months ago we would still be in this position there is light at the end of the tunnel as the vaccine programme rolls out at a pace.

Some of our work has evolved or changed over the past few months but our commitment to keeping you safe has remained and much of our daily business continues, particularly neighbourhood policing and emergency response.

Local officers are carrying out warrants on a regular basis and getting some fantastic results, recovering a significant amount of drugs, firearms and cash since the start of the year. We continue to respond to local information about criminal activity in our communities and have made a number of arrests thanks to your support.

Rural officers are regularly patrolling our countryside and have been really successful in catching and preventing people from hare coursing in the county.

In February I welcomed the first new recruits of 2021, 16 officers who have now begun their careers supporting local officers on the frontline.

It has been a difficult time for people with Covid impacting on our daily lives but this has not stopped us in our commitment to delivering quality policing to neighbourhoods and keeping people in Cambridgeshire safe.





## TOP TIPS: PROTECTING YOUR PET FROM THEIVES

Cambridgeshire Police have urged residents to remain alert and to look out for suspicious activity following a national rise in dog thefts and a number of attempted burglaries across the north of Cambridgeshire.

Dogs are often beloved family members and their theft can be incredibly distressing for both them and their owners. Being mindful of the below steps can help protect your pet from theft and increase the chances of them being returned to you should the worst happen.

1. Keep an ID tag on your dog at all times (your surname, mobile number and address only);
2. Secure gates using bolts at the top and bottom, along with a heavy-duty padlock and gate alarm;
3. Never leave your pet in the garden unattended;
4. Purchase a driveway alarm so you are alerted to any intruders, these can also be used in rear gardens and yards;
5. Make sure your dog is microchipped and their details are updated so that they can be returned if they are stolen and subsequently found;
6. Avoid leaving a dog tied up outside a shop or left alone in a car, even for a few minutes;
7. Take lots of photographs of your dog to prove ownership if it's stolen, pay particular attention to any distinguishing markings on your dog;
8. Prevent theft on walks by varying walk times and locations and being suspicious of strangers who ask questions about your dog, lastly;
9. If your dog is lost or suspected to have been stolen, it's important to act quickly. Report stolen dogs via [Cambridgeshire Constabulary's report online page](#) or by calling 101. Notify your microchip database provider also.



## Committing funds to keep young people 'Safe'

Young people at moderate and significant risk of criminal exploitation and violence will continue to have access to a team of specialist workers following a funding pledge by the Acting Police and Crime Commissioner, Ray Bisby.

The 'Safe Team' which is part of the county's Youth Offending Service was set up in 2019 with Home Office funding. It provides a team of 'trusted' professionals to engage with young people with complex needs. The workers support the young people to remove themselves from risky environments and lifestyles and therefore reduce the likelihood of them getting involved in exploitation and crime, either as a victim or offender.

The additional funding from both the Acting Police and Crime Commissioner and Local Authority will enable the service to continue its work until March 2022 while a longer term approach is agreed.

"I am passionate about ensuring vulnerable young people can be supported to make the right choices in their lives," said Acting Commissioner Ray Bisby.

"This is why I am keen that the Youth Offending Service use this next year to fully review the continued impact of the service."

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) was awarded £384,431 in 2019/20, to fund the Safe Team, as part of the Home Office's Early Intervention Youth Fund. Since then 67 young people have engaged with this support. An evaluation has shown offending and missing from home incidents have halved as a result.

The Acting Commissioner has contributed £250k to the delivery of the service in 2021/22; funding which had previously been committed to the progression of prevention workstreams which were delayed by the pandemic.

The Acting Commissioner added: "I have heard first hand from the Safe Team how they are developing their approach to engaging vulnerable young people. It is a somewhat unique situation to have access to this amount of funding and I am pleased to be able to support the local authority to extend the program until March 2022, whilst we further evaluate impact."

Assistant Chief Constable Vicki Evans, Chair of Youth Justice Management Board said: "The Safe Team and Cambridgeshire Police METHub work cohesively together to safeguard vulnerable young children who are at risk of exploitation. The work carried out by the Safe Team is invaluable at managing early intervention and seeking to prevent any child becoming a victim of any form of exploitation.

"The close ties developed with Cambridgeshire Police ensure that the correct signposting for appropriate support services and continued safeguarding can be effective and promote wellbeing in the children they engage with."

Lou Williams, Service Director, Children & Safeguarding, Peterborough City & Cambridgeshire County Councils said: "Robust monitoring is evidencing early indications of effectiveness in respect of young people's safety, reduced involvement in crime and exploitation.

"We are also starting to see an encouraging impact on engagement in education and other positive outcomes for young people."





## USEFUL CONTACTS ...

### CRIME:

#### CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE

Report a crime online, find local information about where you live including crime statistics and where your closest station is and keep up to date with the latest news and appeals from Cambridgeshire Police.

**W:** [www.cambs.police.uk](http://www.cambs.police.uk)

**T:** 999/ 101

#### ECOPS

By registering with eCops, you receive news and appeals, local crime information and crime prevention advice - direct to you as an e-mail. The service is completely free and works alongside Neighbourhood Watch, to bring you messages about your local area.

**W:** [www.ecops.org.uk](http://www.ecops.org.uk)

#### CRIMESTOPPERS

An independent charity that gives people the power to speak up and stop crime – 100% anonymously.

**W:** [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)

**T:** 0800 555 111

#### CAMBRIDGESHIRE VICTIM AND WITNESS HUB

You don't need to have reported your crime to the Police to receive support. For free, confidential and tailored advice on which service can best suit you call the Victim and Witness Hub.

**W:** [www.cambsvictimservices.co.uk](http://www.cambsvictimservices.co.uk)

**T:** 0800 781 6818

#### ACTION FRAUD

The UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime where you should report fraud if you have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cybercrime.

**W:** [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)

**T:** 0300 123 2040

### COMMUNITY GROUPS:

#### CAMBRIDGESHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Organisations which promote greater public participation across the county in the prevention and solving of crime and encourages improved communication between NHW Members and Cambridgeshire Constabulary so that effective liaison between the police and the public can be enhanced.

**W:** [www.cambsnhw.org.uk](http://www.cambsnhw.org.uk)

#### SPEEDWATCH

The Community Speedwatch scheme trains volunteers from members of the community to get actively involved in monitoring the speed of vehicles travelling through their neighbourhood. The scheme is used in areas where speeding has been identified as a priority at quarterly neighbourhood panel meetings.

**W:** [www.speedwatch.info](http://www.speedwatch.info)

#### COUNTRYSIDE WATCH

Operates a network across the county with mobile equipment to get targeted messages out to the rural community. This gives the community time to protect itself against such issues as suspicious vehicles, distraction burglaries and property theft.

**W:** [www.cambscountrysidewatch.co.uk](http://www.cambscountrysidewatch.co.uk)

#### CAMBRIDGESHIRE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Award hundreds of grants each year to front-line charities and voluntary groups who support people in Cambridgeshire.

**W:** [www.cambscf.org.uk](http://www.cambscf.org.uk)

**T:** 01223 410535

**E:** [info@cambscf.org.uk](mailto:info@cambscf.org.uk)



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# 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 Cambridge and Peterborough, PO Box 688, Huntingdon PE29 9LA



[cambs-pcc@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:cambs-pcc@cambs.pnn.police.uk)



0300 333 3456

## THE COMMISSIONER OFFERS REGULAR ONE-TO-ONE MEETINGS ACROSS THE COUNTY:

As a result of the current Covid-19 health emergency, these will be offered as telephone or video calls if preferred, in line with social distancing advice. If you have an issue you would like to discuss, you can book a 15-minute appointment by emailing [cambs-pcc@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:cambs-pcc@cambs.pnn.police.uk)

### UP COMING SURGERY DATES ARE:

22nd April at: 10.00am - 12.00 noon

25th May at: 10.00am - 12.00 noon

25th June at: 10.00am – 12.00 noon