



SAFER IN KENT

Matthew Scott
Kent's Police and Crime Commissioner

PCC outlines his plans to increase Kent Police officers and staff

Over the past year, when I have been travelling around the County, I have spoken to Kent residents to seek their views on Policing in Kent and Medway. There is no doubt that Policing remains under pressure due to a multitude of factors. Despite this, Kent Police has been among the top-rated Forces in the country for efficiency, effectiveness and legitimacy in 2016 and 2017. In order to support local Policing, the Home Office has allowed PCCs to increase the council tax precept by £1 a month for an average household, which could raise up to £270m nationally. Taking into consideration the views of residents, I am pleased to be pro-

posing the biggest Kent Police recruitment drive for a considerable time. I am empowering the Chief Constable to recruit up to 200 additional Police Officers in the next year. These will go into boosting a number of areas, and will take the total number in Kent to its highest level since 2012. There will also be a boost in the number of call handlers answer-

ing 999 and 101 calls, so that people can get help quicker. I hope that you will support this vital boost. Please email your thoughts to haveyoursay@pcc.kent.pnn.police.uk by 27th January. The proposed precept rise will then go to the Kent and Medway Police and Crime Panel for its approval on 8th February.

#SaferInKent: Boosting the Frontline

- Up to 200 more Police Officers
- Local Policing bolstered
- Rural and roads Policing expanded
- Investment in 101
- Greater public protection
- £1 more per month

Matthew Scott
Kent Police and Crime Commissioner

What the Council Tax precept increase will mean for Kent Police

MALE DOMESTIC ABUSE IN KENT CONFERENCE

A conference was held to mark [International Men's Day](#) which shone a light on the issues affecting male victims of domestic abuse. More than 100 representatives from policing, health services, local authorities, housing services

and victims' charities attended the event at Kent Police College on 17th November. The aim was to challenge some of the misconceptions around male victims of domestic abuse and to highlight the support that is in place,

both from policing and from those victims' services which the PCC commissions. The event was a huge success and is hopefully the springboard to further work to better

support male victims of this horrendous crime.



- Matthew Scott was pleased to attend the latest **Passing Out Parade** at Kent Police College on 22nd December (above). A further 40 Police Officers have completed their initial training and joined the force.

Newsletter January 2018

News in Brief

- Independent charity Victim Support has launched a new online 'live chat' service for victims of crime in Kent who may find it difficult to access support over the phone or in person. This new service, which runs in addition to the services currently offered by the charity, is funded by Matthew Scott. The text-based live chat service offers a safe online space for people to talk openly about their experience of crime, providing anonymity and a quick response.
- A new **Restorative Justice service** has been launched in Kent. Restorative Justice offers a safe and controlled way for victims and offenders to engage in conversation to repair the harm caused. The PCC Matthew Scott has commissioned Restorative Solutions to deliver this service in Kent. More than 50 people have been referred into Restorative Solutions since the service began on 1 October including victims of burglary, assault and adolescent-to-parent violence.
- Matthew Scott recently became the National Lead among PCCs for mental health, in addition to being the Lead for Police Performance. He wrote on **World Mental Health Day** about the work that PCCs are doing in order to help reduce demand on policing as a result of cases involving mental health.
- Thank you to everyone who completed the **PCC's Annual Policing Survey**, which has now closed. Mr Scott received more than 1,600 responses and your feedback will help him refresh his Police and Crime Plan, Safer in Kent, this spring.

SAFER IN KENT Matthew Scott

Kent's Police and Crime Commissioner



PCC congratulates Kent Police on being graded 'Outstanding' by HMICFRS for Legitimacy

Matthew Scott has congratulated Kent Police on being rated outstanding for its legitimacy for an unprecedented third year in a row. Each year, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) grades Police forces on their Efficiency, Effectiveness and Legitimacy (PEEL). On 12th December HMICFRS announced Kent Police to be outstanding at how legitimately it keeps people safe and reduces crime – as it did in both 2015 and 2016. The PCC Mr Scott said: 'This is fantastic news. Legitimacy, or policing by consent, is vital. The more that people trust our local

police force the more likely it is that victims will seek help, witnesses will come forward with evidence, and members of the community will get involved in volunteering and community safety initiatives which make us all safer.' HMICFRS' inspectors noted the extensive training Kent Police officers and staff receive on ethical decision-making, preventing unconscious bias, and that "force leaders continue to demonstrate an extremely positive and ethical approach to policing". They also noted the work the PCC's office does in helping Kent Police review complaints and by running a volunteers' Ride Along Scheme.



PCC to host national Mental Health Conference



A Mental Health Conference will be hosted by Matthew Scott

At the end of January 2018 the PCC will be hosting the first Mental Health East conference, which will be attended by national mental health leads, PCCs, Chief police officers, representatives from local authorities and health providers. Keynote speakers will be Jonny Benjamin MBE and Neil Laybourn. Furthermore there will be speeches by representatives from NHS England, HMICFRS, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, the NPCC national lead for Mental Health and will

finish with a Mental Health Act panel; this feedback will be fed into the national mental health review panel, which Matthew Scott is a part of. This event will be an opportunity for all partners to support and share best practice in order to increase efficiency around mental health and policing.



What is a Police and Crime Commissioner?

Matthew Scott was elected Kent's Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in May 2016. His role is to set policing priorities for the county, by consulting with the public and putting together a Police and Crime Plan. He then holds the Chief Constable of Kent Police to account for the delivery of that plan. He sets the council tax precept for policing, is responsible for the overall policing budget, and com-

missions services for victims of crime and funds community safety projects. Mr Scott also serves as the national Association of Police and Crime Commissioners' portfolio holder for Performance, and also as the portfolio holder for Mental Health. He lives in Swanley with his wife and young daughter, is a fan of cricket and football, enjoys real ale and is a keen musician who has played in cover bands across the South East.

Get in touch

To raise an issue with Mr Scott or to invite him to a meeting or event please visit the OPCC website: www.kent-pcc.gov.uk/contact-us

Please note that the PCC cannot interfere in operational policing or demand that the Chief Constable changes how he uses his policing resources. Equally, his office (the OPCC) cannot provide updates on how a crime is being investigated.