

Hinckley & Bosworth NEWSLETTER



Stoke Golding is best known for the Battle of Bosworth Field.

A message from Rupert Matthews

Welcome to the first PCC newsletter compiled for the Hinckley and Bosworth district.

I believe that it is essential that we all work together to make life safer for all those who live, work or visit our area.

I thought that you might like to know what I've been up to and what that might mean for local residents.

I would also be grateful if you could share this email with your contacts and friends, encouraging them to do the same. Cheeky I know, but if you don't ask....

Rupert Matthews
Police & Crime Commissioner



**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER**
for Leicester,
Leicestershire & Rutland
Your Communities – Your Commissioner

MAY 2022



*Out and about with
PC Mike Statt.*



Out and about in Hinckley and Bosworth

I've been spending a fair bit of time in your area since I was elected. It's vital that I meet local politicians and stakeholders as well as residents to hear what everyone thinks of the services they are receiving from the police and partners.

I was delighted to be able to visit the brand-new police storefront in Britannia Shopping Centre where Hinckley Police are having drop-in sessions for the public. This really is right in the heart of the community and feedback appears positive.

On walkabout with PCSO Phil Wayne it was good to see the local businesses thriving in Hinckley Town centre. Every business we spoke to reported a good relationship between them and the police, which is exactly as it should be.

In Market Bosworth I know officers have been listening to the residents who are concerned about road safety. The local beat team has had some very productive days on Traffic Operations – hopefully these drivers learn their lessons.

Another problem is hare coursing. Recently the drone was sent after the two and four-legged culprits, but unfortunately couldn't locate them – however, the feet on the beat officers did find and seize their vehicle as it had no MOT!

To find out more about the work of the rural officers I spent a day with PC Mike Statt.

Like all of the officers I have met, he was focussed on the job and determined to get to the bottom of some of the rural issues that plague our communities. I will do what I can to help.



*With the team at the
police pop-up shop.*

Temporary Chief Constable Robert Nixon and Anne Cowan JP attending the Attestation for new police officers at Force HQ.



Going up!

I'm delighted to be able to announce a significant increase in officer numbers for Leicestershire Police.

The national 'uplift' programme of 20,000 additional police officers nationally will see police numbers in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland rise – and rise significantly.

This operation has meant an additional 178 officers for Leicestershire Police by the end of year 2. However, we have recruited 329 officers by Dec 21. This is an additional 7% over our Op Uplift allocation based on year 2.



Meeting one of the cadets.

Our recruitment has been brilliant over the last quarter, and investment in our force remains strong. As you can see via our publicly available quarterly officer recruitment statistics as part of operation uplift: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-officer-uplift-quarterly-update-to-december-2021>

As of December 2021, our current headcount is 2,327. That is an increase of 16% compared to our baseline at the beginning of Uplift.

I am proud that Leicestershire Police have delivered the proportionally largest increase in Police Officers over this period of the operation.

Safer Streets means Safer Properties in Hinckley

Nearly 300 householders in Hinckley have been offered free security upgrades as part of a major crackdown on burglary.

Last year I was pleased to secure £432k from the Home Office's Safer Streets Fund to reduce the risk of crime and

make Leicestershire's streets safer.

That funding has been invested in several town centres across the county, including Hinckley where there was a disproportionately higher risk of street crime.

In Hinckley alone nearly 300 homes benefited from free security measures such as high security door locks, window locks, door alarms and window alert alarms.

This was a real partnership approach. I worked with the police and other partners including Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council.

This project was all about equipping people with the tools and support they need to prevent their homes being targeted by criminals.



PRIORITISING POLICING IN HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH

It would be wonderful to think the police could solve all local problems, but the fact is that the police cannot work in isolation. That's why it's important to keep in touch with local elected representatives and community groups to check that everything possible is being done, hopefully in partnership with each other.

Concerns about ASB, speeding and road safety are pretty universal it would appear.

Action is being taken. People in Bosworth have also raised burglary and in Hinckley, the spectre of drug dealing has emerged.

I've checked up and can see that additional patrols and targeted operations are being used to disrupt most of this nefarious activity.

I was particularly pleased to see a greater reliance on partnership working than I envisaged.

But we all have a part to play. We can all report problems if we see them. Please do.



Safer Parks in Hinckley

The Safer Streets Three Programme saw another welcome injection of cash, this time aimed at improving the safety of women and girls. As a result, new surveillance cameras are coming to Clarendon Park, reducing the risk of harm to park users and making them less vulnerable. The cameras will also help the police to obtain vital evidence in the event of a crime.

This money has paid for improvement works that increase visibility in the parks such as cutting back undergrowth and foliage. It will also fund the launch of a new

safety campaign to challenge misogynistic attitudes.

On a rather chilly day, Councillor Michael Mullaney and I paid a visit to see the new CCTV cameras that have been installed. We agreed that we will do what we can to continue this great work.

Women and girls have a right to feel safe everywhere – at home, online and in public spaces.

That's why we listened very carefully to local women, so we understand where they feel most at risk and have acted accordingly.



Visit
<https://www.leics.pcc.police.uk/Our-Work/Safer-Streets/Safer-Streets.aspx>
to read more about my Safer Streets campaign



With Cllr Mullaney in Clarendon Park, Hinckley.

Saddened by the death of former Chief Constable Simon Cole



Like so many others, I was shocked and extremely saddened to learn that our former Chief Constable, Simon Cole, had died. Simon was the epitome of a great Chief Constable whose commitment to public service was unswerving. We live in a safer place thanks to his leadership.

I know that the officers and staff, past and present, of Leicestershire Police are feeling his death keenly.

It was always clear to me that he was held in high regard and genuine affection at all levels. My thoughts and sympathies

are with his family, friends and colleagues. I sincerely hope that they are given the time and space to grieve in peace.

Following the announcement that Simon was to retire, I asked the Deputy Chief Constable, Rob Nixon, to become Acting Chief Constable during the recruitment process.

I have now started the search for the substantive post holder – it is a remarkably complex process, and I am firmly focussed on finding the right person to be the next Chief Constable for residents across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.



Commissioner's Advisory Group

Local people should be able to influence the way in which policing services are provided.

That is why I've launched a 'Commissioner's Advisory Group.' I have been recruiting members who will give me information about local issues,

events of which I should be aware, views on local campaigns and so on.

I want it to be truly representative of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, which means I've been looking for people from all areas,

backgrounds and with differing experiences.

Everyone in the group will be independent, impartial and willing to express views, good and bad. Follow us on social media to hear what they have to say.

Helping to keep the area safe

All too often we hear people say, 'someone should DO something.' Well, I am. Projects to help keep Hinckley & Bosworth safe are invited to apply for funding from my Commissioner's Safety Fund – the details are on my website.

There is £400,000 available over 2022-23. The Fund is open for applications from any community-based group, parish council, school or business (if the business can match-fund and supply their service free

of charge) and grants up to a maximum of £10,000 will be allocated per project.

Visit
<https://www.leics.pcc.police.uk/Planning-and-Money/Commissioning/Current-Funding-Available/Commissioners-Safety-Fund.aspx>
to read more about community safety grants

THE COMMISSIONER WILL KEEP ON VISITING YOUR AREA

I have begun holding a series of "Community Thursdays" when every Thursday I will be visiting a different area of our City and two Counties. You will be advised in advance when I will be in your area for a Community Thursday so that you may take part or send me your views on topical issues. I believe that it is essential that we work together to make the Hinckley & Bosworth district a safer place to live, work or visit.

With Cllr Collett at Sparkenhoe Farm discussing policing concerns in Stoke Golding.



Live Safe – wherever you are

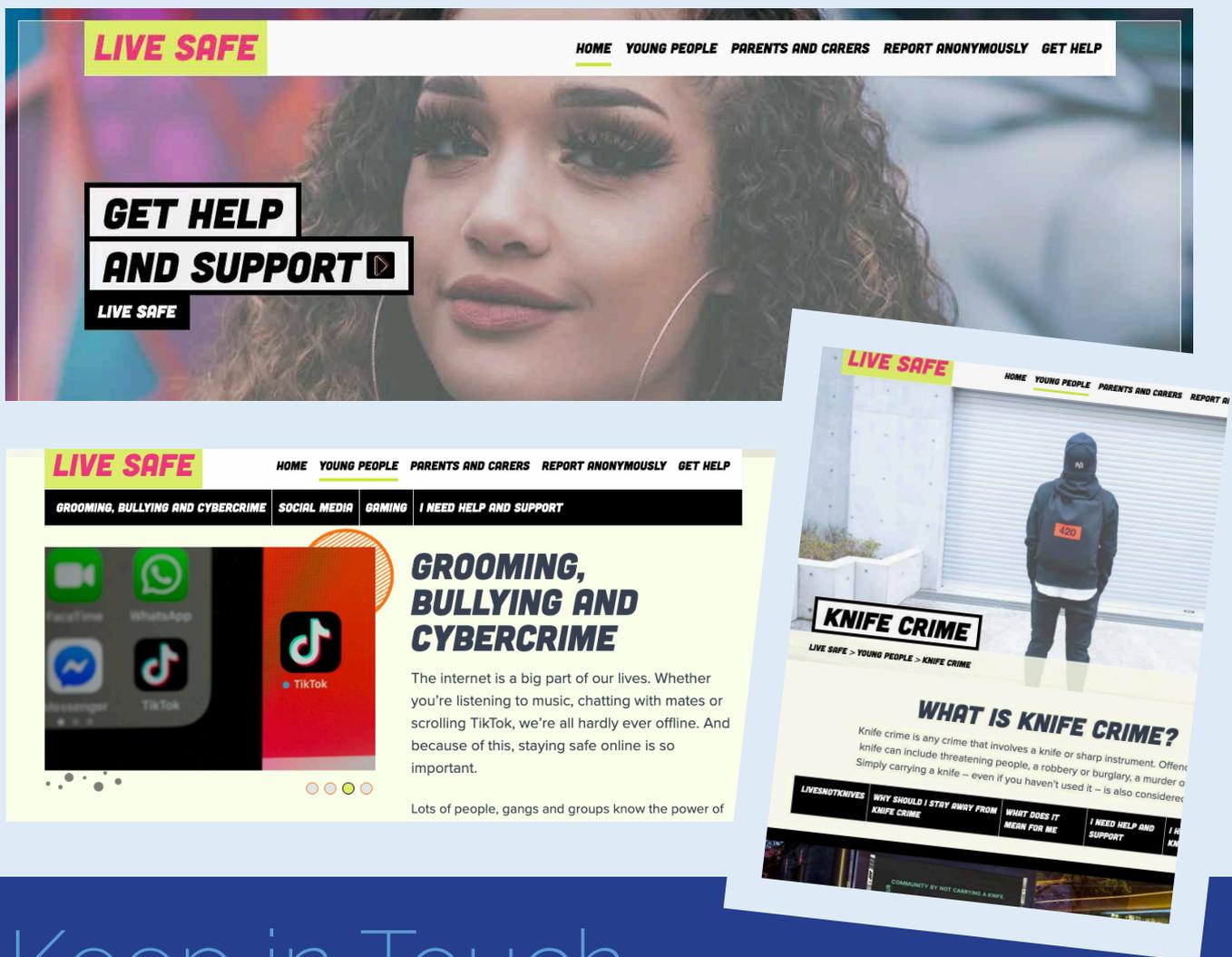
A new website www.livesafe.org.uk has been launched by the Violence Reduction Network, which I chair. It is a virtual space for local young people and their parents/carers in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland

to receive support and to explore issues relating to safety.

As 'everyone has a role to play,' the website aims to equip young people and parents with

factual information about key dangers facing young people such as grooming, gangs, child exploitation, and knife crime. It tells you how to get support and ways to anonymously report crimes and concerns.

It also includes information about the 'Make a Stand Against Violence' campaign which teaches young people how to take action against violence and look out for their friends.



Keep in Touch

Please do not hesitate to get in touch at any time using these contact details:

- Email: opcc@leics.police.uk
- Telephone: 0116 229 8980
- Website: www.leics.pcc.police.uk
- Facebook: LeicsPCC
- Twitter: @LeicsPCC

You can also keep up to date with my day-to-day work via Twitter, Facebook and my weekly blog.