



Matthew Scott at the e scooter campaign in Maidstone

Matthew Scott and Kent Police launch an e scooter education campaign

Funding boost for parts of Kent and Medway

Retail Crime

Antisocial behaviour survey

XL Bully dogs

Our visits round Kent and Medway

Kent's Police and Crime Commissioner, Matthew Scott and Kent Police have launched an e scooter education campaign, trying to persuade people to abandon these mostly illegal and sometimes dangerous modes of transport.

Letters from the Police have been sent to schools and officers have been on the streets, telling people that riding electric scooters on public roads or pavements could lead to a fine and 6 points on your license.



contactyourpcc@kent.police.uk
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Funding Success! Safer Streets 5

Over £900,000 to improve street safety in Sittingbourne and Sheerness, Folkestone and Chatham.

We're delighted to be working with the Home Office and our local Community Safety Partnership teams to deliver Safer Streets 5 projects to Kent and Medway. Sittingbourne and Sheerness town centres will receive £323,739.05 over two years, Folkestone central ward will be awarded £335,546.64 over two years and Chatham town centre will receive £284,523.65. All three Safer Streets 5 projects will improve safety especially for women and girls, with improved CCTV, more outreach workers and active bystander training, as well as generally improving the street scene, with removal of graffiti and fly-tipping.



Visits to our previous Safer Streets projects



Thank you to everyone who has taken part in our Safer Streets 4 Projects. These benefited parts of Maidstone, Gravesham, Medway and Canterbury.

Amongst the things provided were Safe Havens, more Best Bar None pubs and clubs (where staff are better trained to look out for vulnerable people), more Street Pastors and some youth diversionary schemes (like the new ball park pictured) as well as improved CCTV and graffiti removal to discourage antisocial behaviour and improve the environment.



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Kent PCC's office

Retail Crime

We know shop lifting and retail crime has been in the news a great deal and it is something we're certainly focussed on. The PCC has been on operations with the Force, the one pictured was in Canterbury and amongst other suspects apprehended that day, the force arrested a group who were based many miles from Kent, but suspected of stealing hundreds of pounds from local shops.

The Chief Constable told Matthew Scott at the latest Performance and Delivery Board that charge results for shoplifting are up: in 2019 the rate was 15%, so far this year it's just over 20%. (You can watch the clip on our Youtube channel, address below).

We do understand there are very real concerns about this however and do urge retailers to report every incident to the police, as it can help their intelligence-led operations, like the one mentioned above.



Results of our antisocial behaviour survey

Earlier this year we asked you to tell us what sort of offences you witnessed in your area.

According to the results, more people see littering and discarded drug paraphernalia than any other offence, with nuisance vehicles the second most common and noisy or nuisance neighbours the third.

However, when we asked you which offence had the greatest impact on your lives, perhaps unsurprisingly criminal damage ranked highest, with drug use and fly-tipping scoring highly too.

Most people didn't report the incidents though, with only 28% reporting to the police and 23% reporting to their local council. We would urge you report persistent antisocial behaviour. It can help build a profile of areas which suffer particularly badly. We'd also encourage you to sign up for My Community Voice, which will update you on police activity local to your area and enable you to feed information to your local officers.



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XL Bully Dogs

The PCC has written to the government to support the proposed ban on XL Bully dogs.

Here is an extract from his letter:

“Defining the breed is important to give the Police clarity as to the animals that will fall under the ban. I am pleased that Policing is represented on your review group looking at this matter. There is the potential for long and drawn out legal battles if the definition does not deal with the breed adequately.

If there will be, rightly, the expectation of increased enforcement, policing will require extra resources to manage this. There will need to be an increase in specialist dog handlers. There will need to be funding for the extra Kennels that will be required to house any seized pets and the costs of vets for health and destruction purposes met.

Consideration will need to be given to Magistrates Courts and Crown Court capacity, for the any warrants and prosecutions that will be needed. This is especially important given the Crown Court backlogs.

Education programmes and advertising campaigns will need to be shared so that owners and breeders are absolutely clear on what the legislation will entail.”

Visits around Kent

It's been a busy season for us, with many visits around the community. We've discussed how best to deal with mental health cases with Rethink Sahayak in Gravesham, discussed trust in the police with the North Kent Caribbean Network and seen how the Guru Nanak Gurdwara serves its community in Gravesend.

We've had meetings with some of our commissioned services too, with SATEDA in Swale and DAVSS in Tunbridge Wells. These are charities we fund to support victims of domestic abuse in in Kent and Medway.

We've also been promoting our bespoke *men's* charities this month, for Mankind Awareness Day. Both Dad's Unlimited and Health Action support men who've suffered from domestic abuse, offering them legal advice and counselling. Go to our Youtube page to find out more.



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