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POLICE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER
FOR CLEVELAND

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Newsletter December 2013



Welcome to the December newsletter from the Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland.

November has been a month of reflection as I look back on my first year in office. I am very proud of the achievements that have been made over what has been a very busy twelve months. We have organised a number of highly successful events including the [Cleveland Community Safety Awards](#) which highlighted the achievements of people working and volunteering across the area, Cleveland's first ever [Criminal Justice Volunteers Fair](#) which saw over 900 people express interest in volunteering positions and the Regional Rural Crime Conference where we showcased the developments being made in policing rural areas.

I have launched the [Police Property Act Fund](#) which has now supported 31 projects across Cleveland, with over £26,500 funding ranging from supporting a [local foodbank](#) to a community cohesion event bringing the old and young together. I have also visited over 100 community meetings across all 82 wards of Cleveland as part of [Your Force Your Voice](#), where I have listened to the concerns of local people and ensured that these have shaped my plans for my next year in office. During December, I will be visiting shopping centres in Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Stockton to gather more views as I look to my plans for the next year in office.

It has been a very busy, but very rewarding year and I look forward to the challenges ahead of which I am sure there will be many. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Barry Copping
Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland

Young People 'Take Over' For the Day

Friday 22nd November marked the first year anniversary of the Commissioner taking office, and to mark the occasion he demonstrated his commitment to listening to the people of Cleveland by letting two young people 'take over' his role for the day.

Jordan Odgers, aged 17 and Hollie Lowery, aged 19, both from Hartlepool spent the day shadowing the Commissioner as part of the national '11 Million Takeover Day' which gives young people from across the country the opportunity to come into work places and better understand how they can influence decision making and make a difference within their communities. One of the Commissioner's key commitments is to divert people from offending, and prevent re-offending, and this formed the focus for the day with visits to a Community Payback scheme and a look around custody and the triage process which diverts first time young offenders from entering the criminal justice system. [Click here to read more about the 11 Million Takeover Day...](#)



Have Your Say on the Police & Crime Plan

The Commissioner is currently seeking the views of local communities on the priorities outlined in his Police and Crime Plan and the work he is undertaking to achieve these priorities.

The consultation aims to understand the views of residents, community groups, business organisations, victims of crime and other stakeholders concerning the Police and Crime Plan priorities for 2013-16, so that the Commissioner can refresh the plan and associated budget to ensure that the policing and community safety needs of the area are being addressed.

A short survey has been created on the PCC's website for you to contribute your opinions and views of the PCC's first year and his priorities going forward. [Click here to view the Police & Crime Plan survey...](#)



Commissioner Supports Community Volunteering

The Commissioner has pledged his support for International Women's Day after attending My Sister's Place in Middlesbrough. The aim of the visit was to present the charity with a cheque for £1,250 awarded from the Police Property Act Fund. It follows a successful application to assist with the recruitment and training for a number of volunteers in a 'Support at Court' role. The volunteers were hired following the successful Cleveland Criminal Justice Volunteer Fair held at Teesside University in October 2013. The PCC said: "The services provided by My Sister's Place are of great importance for women who have experienced or are experiencing domestic violence. For me to be able to present this funding on International Women's Day highlights the importance of volunteers in supporting victims and witnesses." [Click to read more about the Commissioner's visit to My Sister's Place...](#)



A Big Thank You to Cleveland's Custody Visitors

Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs) are members of the local community who visit police stations unannounced to check on the welfare of people in police custody. ICVs come from a variety of backgrounds and sections of the community. They must be over 18 and have no direct involvement in the criminal justice system, for example, serving police officers or special constables.

Visits are conducted in pairs, are random and unannounced, and a report is completed after each visit which provides an insight into the running of the custody area at that time. Data from these reports is analysed and the areas for action are highlighted. Within Cleveland there are 18 Custody Visitors who have conducted over 79 visits during the last year.

The work they do is invaluable in ensuring that people entering custody are dealt with appropriately and sensitively, and we owe them a great deal of thanks for this. Merry Christmas to all our ICVs! [More information about Independent Custody Visiting...](#)



Avoid the Twelve Frauds of Christmas

Advice on how to avoid being a victim of economic crime this Christmas is available to download from my

website.

[Click here to download your own copy of the 12 Frauds of Christmas \(Adobe Acrobat PDF, 2mB\)](#)

Keep safe by viewing [Get Safe Online's Christmas Checklist](#) which advises consumers on how to shop for their Christmas presents safely and other advice about how to stay safe online over the festive period.



Upcoming Your Force Your Voice Meetings

You can meet the Police & Crime Commissioner at the following locations during December 2013:

Middlesbrough Consultation Roadshow, 2 December,
11am - 1pm, Cleveland Centre

Stockton Road Area Residents Association, 3 December,
6.00pm, Ye Old Durham Pub, Stockton Road, Hartlepool

Stockton Consultation Roadshow, 4 December,
11am - 1pm, Teesside Park

Linthorpe Community Council Meeting, 11 December,
7.00pm, Dormans Club, Oxford Road, Middlesbrough

Redcar & Cleveland Consultation Roadshow, 12 December
10am -12pm, Redcar High Street

Hartlepool Consultation Roadshow, 16 December,
11am - 1pm, Middleton Grange Shopping Centre

Pensioner Drop In, 20 December, 10am - 12:pm,
Police Headquarters, Ladgate Lane, Middlesbrough

[Click here to read public questions from all Your Force Your Voice meetings...](#)



To contact the Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland:
Telephone: 01642 301653 / 01642 301632 / 01642 301623
or complete the online form: [Contact Us](#)

Website: www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk or Google 'Cleveland PCC'

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