A Festive Welcome from the Police & Crime Commissioner

“It’s been an extremely busy year and as Christmas approaches it is a time to reflect on the work undertaken in 2014 and look forward to the challenges that 2015 will provide.

The event held to mark the one year anniversary of the Regional Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy was a perfect opportunity to do this and take stock of the progress that has been made in implementing the strategy.

We have successfully bid for funding to provide links with schools to provide support for children affected by domestic violence, we are working on implementing Domestic Abuse Champions in workplaces across the region and have been involved in several publicity campaigns highlighting the fact that in today's society we will not tolerate this type of abusive behaviour. There is much more to do and we will continue to work hard to tackle the issues.

Unfortunately Christmas is an extremely busy period for the police and other emergency services, whether through the increased reports of domestic violence over the festive period, the increases in alcohol related antisocial behaviour as people take ‘enjoying’ themselves that step too far or through the increased risk of theft in busy town centres, or fraud for those who shop online. This month’s newsletter contains some useful tips on how to prevent yourself from becoming a victim of crime over the holiday period and also gives thanks to those who volunteer to keep us safe when we are out enjoying ourselves on nights out through the valued Street Angel projects across Cleveland.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and all the best for what I hope will be a productive 2015.

Barry Coppinger
Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland

More information about the Police & Crime Commissioner can be found on his website: www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk
A Note from the Police Commissioner

Here is a list of public meetings where you can speak to PCC Barry Coppinger in the coming weeks:

Hemlington Community Council
6 January, 6.00pm
Community Room
Hemlington Library

Dormanstown Neighbourhood Action Partnership
28 January, 6.00pm
Corus Sports & Social South Avenue Dormanstown

Stainton and Thornton Parish Council
13 January, 7.00pm
Stainton Memorial Hall

Brookfield Community Council
28 January, 7.15pm
St Margaret’s Church Hall
The Oval

Saltburn Neighbourhood Action Partnership
14 January, 6.00pm
Saltburn Library

Your Force Your Voice

Cleveland’s Police and Crime Commissioner, Barry Coppinger, demonstrated his commitment to listening to the views of young people across Cleveland by letting three youngsters ‘take over’ his role for the day.

Ben Rutherford, George Richardson, and Joshua Scott, all aged 15 and 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.

The Commissioner and the young people met with Hartlepool officers to discuss policing in Hartlepool and also visited the custody suite to gain an insight into the triage process which involves giving support to young people who have been arrested to try and ensure that they do not reoffend.

Barry Coppinger said: "All too often the views of young people can be disregarded, when often they have the most innovative ideas for tackling issues.

I have met with many young people throughout my term of office, ranging from Primary School Councils, to Police Cadets and young offenders undertaking reparation activities, and I have always been impressed by their commitment to contribute positively to their local community.”
Celebration Event Commends Cleveland’s Street Angels

Cleveland’s Police and Crime Commissioner, Barry Coppinger and Chief Constable, Jacqui Cheer, hosted an event to celebrate the amazing work done by Street Angels across the whole Cleveland area.

Street Angels are volunteers who give up their time on weekend evenings to provide support to people on nights out who may need assistance. This could be handing out free flip flops to females who are struggling to walk in high heels, administering first aid, or placing vulnerable people in taxis to ensure that they arrive home safely.

There are now Street Angels projects in Middlesbrough, Hartlepool, Stockton, Redcar and Guisborough, with more than 100 volunteers providing care and compassion to those who find themselves in need in the night time economy on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Barry Coppinger said: “I am delighted to be able to recognise the hard work of all of these tremendous volunteers who are out every weekend, sometimes in the freezing cold and rain, providing support to those in need.

"The work which they do assists the police and other emergency services immensely, and in many cases they are able to resolve issues without the need for additional assistance from core services, thereby enabling the police and other emergency services to focus where they are most needed.

"I have been out myself with all the projects and seen first hand the commitment and dedication shown by the teams.

"During the last year across Cleveland Street Angels have handed out over 800 flip flops and 400 hot drinks, recovered over 4500 bottles and other glass receptacles, placed 76 vulnerable people in taxis, administered first aid to 167 people and put in over 6500 volunteer hours. I think this is an amazing achievement which deserves recognition."

Steve Brock, Project Manager for Stockton Town Pastors and Regional Coordinator for Street Angels - Christian Nightlife Initiatives, added: "It is tremendous news that Cleveland’s Police & Crime Commissioner has chosen to say thank you to all who are involved in local projects.

"He has recently been on patrols with each, and I know that he is impressed with the commitment of each of the volunteers and with the practical relationships they have built with others who work in that environment."
Cleveland’s Police and Crime Commissioner, Barry Coppinger, helped to deter sneaky purse thieves by handing out jingle bells to savvy shoppers in a series of roadshows. Mr. Coppinger helped to provide crime prevention advice, whilst also seeking views on his plans for policing over the next year in four roadshow events in central shopping locations across Cleveland.

Shoppers had the opportunity to get their hands on jingle bells, which attach to a bag’s handle and give an audible warning if someone is trying to remove either the bag or its contents from the owner.

They were also given some handy seasonal crime prevention advice, were able to have their say on local policing, and could get a free property marking kit so that stolen and recovered items are more easily traceable.

Police and Crime Commissioner Barry Coppinger said:

“At this time of year it is important that people are aware of the dangers of crime and take all the measures possible to prevent them from becoming victims themselves.

“These roadshows are also an opportunity for me to get out and about and meet with the residents of Cleveland, who do not necessarily wish to come to specific policing meetings, and ensure that their views are reflected in my future plans for policing across the area.”

Police Constable Steve Cranston, who attended the Middlesbrough roadshow, said: “As shoppers are rushing around trying to grab some bargains, thieves will be rushing around trying to grab purses!

“I would urge shoppers to ensure that their belongings are safe and secure, that bags are zipped up and no shopping is left on view, but away in the boot.”
DON’T GET DIPPED
KEEP YOUR PURSE ZIPPED

Always close your bag

Don’t count your money in public

Carry your bag over the shoulder and in front of you

Never leave your handbag on a shopping trolley

REPORT STOLEN PROPERTY IMMEDIATELY TO POLICE OR TO A MEMBER OF STAFF. DON’T WAIT UNTIL YOU GET HOME IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 999

More information about the Police & Crime Commissioner can be found on his website: www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk
A Note from the Police Commissioner

Now is the chance to have your say …

The Commissioner’s Police & Crime Plan is being refreshed for 2015-17 to reflect how his five key priorities will be implemented, delivered and measured for success going forward, and will reflect your opinion from consultation. The Commissioner’s five priorities are:

- Retain and Develop Neighbourhood Policing
- Ensure a Better Deal for Victims and Witnesses
- Divert People from Offending with a Focus on Rehabilitation and the Prevention of Reoffending
- Develop Better Coordination, Communication and Partnership between Agencies to Make the Best Use of Resources
- Working For Better Industrial and Community Relations

In order to gauge opinion, an online form has been created to collate views on policing and criminal justice in Cleveland. The questions being asked are:

1. What area of Cleveland do you live in?
2. What actions do you feel the Police and Crime Commissioner needs to take to develop neighbourhood policing?
3. What actions do you feel the Police and Crime Commissioner needs to take to ensure a better deal for victims and witnesses?
4. What actions do you feel the Police and Crime Commissioner needs to take to divert people from offending and re-offending?
5. What actions do you feel the Police and Crime Commissioner needs to take to develop better communication and coordination between agencies?
6. What actions do you feel the Police and Crime Commissioner needs to take to improve community relations?
7. Are there any other areas you feel the Police and Crime Commissioner should focus on in the next year?

You can find the online form to submit your views by following this link — Police & Crime Plan Consultation — or follow the link from the Cleveland PCC homepage.

More information about the Police & Crime Commissioner can be found on his website: www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk
PCCs Mark Anniversary of Regional VAWG Strategy

North East Police and Crime Commissioners Barry Coppinger, Ron Hogg, and Vera Baird marked the first anniversary of the region’s first ever strategy to tackle Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), by holding an event attended by professionals from across the region. The strategy sets out a number of measurable actions which agencies across the region are carrying out to tackle a range of issues around violence and abuse affecting women and girls.

Barry Coppinger, Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner said: “The work done over the past twelve months has helped to bring to light many issues that often go unnoticed in workplaces and on the streets. It’s vital that we bring the region together to help those who are suffering at the hands of violent perpetrators and the north east is fast becoming the cornerstone for fantastic support and best practice in this field. I promised that this strategy wouldn’t just be another document gathering dust on a shelf and we’ve certainly delivered on that as it’s something which police and partners have brought life to over the past twelve months. In Cleveland, I’ve personally seen some excellent work being done on the strategy and will continue to work with both Ron and Vera to move the strategy forward in 2015.”

The PCC and Cleveland Police have produced a progress document which outlines progress against the 20 priorities of the Regional Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy.

Click this link to view the document: Cleveland PCC - VAWG One Year On - Progress Report

Event Presentations

If you would like to view presentations from the VAWG event, they are listed on the Cleveland PCC website via the following links:

- ‘Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy - Twelve months on’ (Cleveland Police)
- ‘Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy - One year On’ (Durham Constabulary)
- ‘Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy - One year On’ (Northumbria Police)
- ‘Employers’ Strategy - Update and the Champions’ Perspective’ (Northumbria PCC)
- ‘Child Sexual Exploitation’ (Barnardos SECOS Project)
Cleveland Police have applied for 34 Domestic Violence Prevention Orders (DVPO’s) since their inception at the end of June this year and are reminding victims of abuse that help is out there and they do not have to suffer in silence.

Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland, Barry Coppinger said: “Here in Cleveland Domestic Abuse is tackled by a partnership-working approach. This sees the police, courts, Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), prison service, probation, local authorities and other statutory and voluntary organisations working together to combat the abuse and help the victim to get their life back on track. Domestic abuse is a crime. You do not have to put up with it.”

With the support of partner agencies, Cleveland Police have put together a poster campaign and advent calendar starting on the 1st December which depict scenes of abuse to encourage sufferers to speak out and signposts them to available help.

**24 Days of Christmas - There’s no excuse for Domestic Abuse**

*In an emergency call 999*  
*Non emergency number 101*  
*For help on Domestic Abuse and Support Services please visit:*  
www.cleveland.police.uk/advice-information/domesticabuse.aspx
Violent relationships have damaging effects on children.
There’s no excuse for domestic abuse.

In an emergency call 999
Non emergency number 101

For help on Domestic Abuse and Support Services please visit :-
www.cleveland.police.uk/advice-information/domesticabuse.aspx

More information about the Police & Crime Commissioner can be found on his website: www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk
In the countdown to Christmas, millions of people living across the UK will go online to buy presents for family and friends, search for holidays, book tickets for a gig or send an electronic Christmas card.

What many don’t realise is the hidden threat we now face from criminals online. Following the below safety tips should help to ensure that you use the internet safely. If you do unfortunately fall victim to an online fraud, please report to Action Fraud on 0300 123 0400 or at www.actionfraud.police.uk.

Online Shopping Fraud
- If possible use online retailers/brands you are aware of and trust.
- Check the delivery, insurance, warranty and returns policy.

Christmas E-Cards
- If you receive an anonymous e-card play it safe and delete the email as it could be infected.
- Use a reputable anti-virus product on your electronic device, making sure it is regularly updated and always turned on.

Auction Fraud
- Always use recommended methods of payment rather than transferring money direct to a seller.
- Research the seller before you bid. If available, check their feedback although be mindful that this can be falsified.

Holiday Fraud
- Always pay with a credit card, if they don’t accept don’t buy from them.
- Use companies that are ABTA or ATOL protected.
- Research the internet and consider the reviews of the company/person you wish to use before booking your trip.

Loan and Investment Scams
- Authentic loan providers will not ask for an advance fee. If they ask for an advance fee, say no.
- If the loan or investment company seems too good to be true, it probably is.

Ticketing Fraud
- Only look at tickets from reputable websites that are secure (showing a padlock) and before buying do an internet search for reviews on the gig/sporting event to see if anyone has fallen victim to a ticketing scam.
- Avoid entering your bank or credit card details on public or shared computers.

Click here to download the full “12 Online Frauds of Christmas” booklet
Cleveland PCC Website Features

Apart from the latest news and views about all of the Commissioner’s initiatives, the Cleveland PCC website provides a lot more useful information about policing and crime in the Cleveland area. Features include:

- PCC Events and Your Force Your Voice Meetings
- Your Views and Feedback from Public Consultation
- Meetings with the Chief Constable
- Strategic Police Performance Reports
- Statutory Transparency Documents (covering topics like the PCC’s expenses and expenditure, staffing levels, procurement, policies, Freedom of Information requests, etc.)
- Commissioning guidance and information about PCC Initiatives, Community Safety Grants and Police Property Act Funding
- Unpaid Work (Community Payback) Suggestion Scheme
- Victims of Crime Information, and much more……

The Cleveland PCC website can be found at www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk or Google “Cleveland PCC”.

More information about the Police & Crime Commissioner can be found on his website: www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk
How You Can Contact the Commissioner...

You can write a Letter:

Write to: Barry Coppinger, Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland, Cleveland Police Headquarters, Ladgate Lane, Middlesbrough TS8 9EH

You can send an Email:

Email Barry Coppinger at:

pcc@cleveland.pnn.police.uk

You can call the Office of the PCC:

General Office Telephone Numbers:

01642 301632 / 01642 301653 / 01642 301623

You can contact the PCC via his Website:

You can submit an online form via the PCC’s website at:

www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk or Google “Cleveland PCC”

You can FOLLOW the Cleveland PCC on Twitter:

You can follow the Cleveland PCC on Twitter at:

@Cleveland_PCC

You can LIKE the Cleveland PCC on Facebook:

Follow and send message to the Cleveland PCC via Facebook at:

Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland

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