



## MAY/JUNE 2014 NEWSLETTER

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Hello everyone,

I hope this newsletter finds you well.

This week sees my return to the office following annual leave, and I'm looking forward to getting back to meeting the people of Kent and supporting the fantastic work being carried out by the women and men of Kent Police.

So here's the latest news for you from the Office.

Best wishes,

### UPDATED POLICING MODEL LAUNCHED FOR KENT POLICE

The Chief Constable of Kent Police, Alan Pughsley, has launched an updated policing model for the county, giving greater control of resources to district commanders in order to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour and allowing resources to be allocated where they are most needed.

The creation of two new units; the Local District Policing Teams and Community Policing Teams will mean officers responsible for responding to emergency calls and custody staff will no longer be centrally-managed, crimes will be investigated locally and community visibility will be increased.

Kent Police Chief Constable Alan Pughsley said: 'Local policing is absolutely fundamental to everything we do and is at the heart of this new policing model. Listening and working together with our communities to make sure Kent continues to be a safe place and giving the best possible service to victims were the commitments I made when I became Chief Constable.'

The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner, Ann Barnes, said: 'I have been briefed throughout the process by the Chief Constable and I believe that the updated model will deliver the local and visible policing that communities have been asking for when I have been out and about in Kent.'

Hearing about the new model was music to my ears. It's all about local policing teams working with local communities to address local issues.' To find out about the changes to the policing teams where you live, click [here](#).



# Kent Police

### SPEARHEADING A NATIONAL INVESTIGATION INTO CRIME RECORDING FIGURES



Following an investigation into Kent's crime recording practices last year, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) has now started to inspect police forces across the country, using the same criteria it applied to Kent, to check if local people can trust their force's crime recording figures.

The report released at the beginning of the month showed that of the 13 forces inspected so far – excluding Kent – around 20 per cent of crimes may be under-recorded. On average the number of accurate crimes recorded by those forces is around 81 per cent, well below Kent's accuracy level which is now a verified 96 per cent.

The 'trust' debate into crime figures was kick-started following a 2012 request by the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner for the first independent public facing investigation into whether or not the people of Kent could have confidence in their crime recording figures.

HMIC has visited Kent twice and the Commissioner now has complete confidence in the accuracy of the crime recording data. The number of crimes correctly recorded in the county has gone up from 90 per cent in June 2013 to 96 per cent in 2014.

The Commissioner is continuing to personally hold the Chief Constable to account to maintain accurate crime recording figures on behalf of the public, ensuring a quality service to victims of crime.

Speaking about the report, Mrs Barnes said: 'I have complete confidence in Kent's figures as we have already been through this process and are ahead of the game.'

'I'm pleased that HMIC has now begun to carry out this investigation with other forces around the country. It is vital work and I urged HMIC and all

forces to do this inspection last year because it is so important. The public has a perfect right to know what crime reporting accuracy levels are where they live and for victims to know that their crime is going to be recorded and investigated.

'To be honest, the report paints a very worrying picture. That said, there are another 30 forces left to be inspected by the end of the year, but I do predict that there will be a surge in crime figures nationally as crime data become much more accurate.'

A final report will be issued by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in October showing results for all 43 police forces across England and Wales.

## NEW APPOINTMENTS

May has been a busy month for new recruits within senior management in Kent Police.

Assistant Chief Constable Jo Shiner, formerly Chief Superintendent with Norfolk Constabulary, has taken up the role of Assistant Chief Constable for Central Operations, and Assistant Chief Constable Matthew Horne has joined Kent from the Metropolitan Police as the joint head of the Serious Crime Directorate for Kent and Essex.

The appointment of Assistant Chief Constable Shiner followed a selection process which culminated in an interview panel which the Commissioner was part of.

Speaking at the time of the appointment, the Commissioner, Ann Barnes, said: 'I had the honour of interviewing excellent officers for the post and I was particularly impressed by Chief Superintendent Shiner's innovative ideas about victim services and involving local communities in local decision making.'

'I am convinced Chief Superintendent Shiner will be an asset to Kent Police and a real role model to those aspiring to reach a chief officer rank.'

ACC Shiner will be responsible for a portfolio in Kent which includes critical incidents, initial crime investigations, special branch, frontier operations and roads policing, while Mr Horne will be leading the directorate which deals with hard-hitting crimes in both Kent and Essex, with a relentless focus on taking criminals off the streets.



## JOIN IN THE FUN AT THE KENT POLICE FAMILY OPEN DAY



The Kent Police family Open Day will be taking place **this Sunday - 6th July - at the Kent Police Training School in Maidstone, from 10am-4pm.**

Everyone is invited to come along and meet officers and staff and gain an insight into the work of Kent Police.

A wide range of fun activities will be available on the day, including demonstrations and stands for the whole family to enjoy, such as:

- Demonstrations of the latest technology, including body-worn cameras
- See how vulnerable victims are supported through the use of LiveLink technology
- Find out how the digital forensics team can crack the latest devices to detect and investigate cyber-crime
- Watch a live display from the emergency services to deal with a road traffic collision and rescue someone trapped in a crashed car
- See police dogs catching criminals
- A flying visit from the NPAS helicopter

Free parking will be available on the day and food, drink and ice cream can be purchased at the event.

For more information and how to get there, visit the Kent Police [website](#) or join the 'Kent Police Family Fun Day' Facebook page.

## DOMESTIC ABUSE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Whoever you are,  
**you**  
are not alone

**"I have no money, no freedom.  
My partner controls everything."**

There are many people working to give you support. We will respect you and treat you compassionately, professionally and sensitively, whatever your circumstances.  
[www.domesticabuseservices.org.uk](http://www.domesticabuseservices.org.uk) for all the help you need in Kent.  
Call **999** in an emergency.

A campaign has been launched to raise awareness of the help and support available for victims, families and perpetrators of domestic abuse.

The Commissioner is supporting the campaign and said: 'Domestic abuse is often a silent yet abhorrent crime that takes place in what should be a loving environment. I am very pleased to be able to fund some of the work to highlight the support that is available and the effort to reach members of our communities who have perhaps felt unable to come forward previously to seek help'.

Police which can be seen [here](#) and the [Kent Domestic Abuse Services website](#) holds a wealth of information about the range of people all working to provide you with support and give you advice.

For more information about the campaign and the support available, [click here](#).

## KEEPING KENT'S ROADS SAFE - PLAY YOUR PART



A road safety campaign has been launched by Kent Police and has now been running for several months.

The force is encouraging all road users to 'play your part' in

## PUT YOUR QUESTIONS TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER AND CHIEF CONSTABLE IN SWANLEY



reducing the number of serious traffic collisions on the county's roads.

The campaign aims to remind drivers, cyclists, motorcyclists and pedestrians that they are all responsible for keeping each other safe, focussing on different road safety themes.

The campaign is fully supported by the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner, Ann Barnes, who said: 'Whatever measures Kent Police put in place to help keep our roads safe get my total support. However we use our roads – whether a driver, cyclist, motorcyclist or pedestrian – we must remember we are all responsible for keeping each other safe. It's incredibly worrying to me that in the last 12 months there has been a slight increase in the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads.'

I will do absolutely anything that I can to raise awareness of road safety issues – no one will be shouting louder about it than me. My sister died in a road accident many years ago, but the pain never goes away.

As your Police and Crime Commissioner, my message to you is simply this: please, please be more mindful when you're out on the roads. Slowing down by just a few miles per hour can make a huge difference to everyone's safety, prevent someone else from becoming part of the tragic statistics and a family from a life sentence of loss and despair.'

For more information and advice on road safety, visit the [Kent Police website](#).



Members of the public will have an opportunity to ask the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner, Ann Barnes, and the Chief Constable of Kent Police, Alan Pughesley, their policing questions and address any local concerns at the next 'Meet the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable' event.

The public forum – open to all – is being held on **Tuesday 29th July at the Alexandra Suite, St Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU**. Registration is at 6pm with a 6.30pm start. The event is expected to last an hour and a half.

If you or someone you know has a policing issue to put to the Police and Crime Commissioner or Chief Constable, you can book a place at the event [here](#) or call the Office on **01622 677055**.