

# Connect

August 2023



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  
POLICE & CRIME  
COMMISSIONER  
CAROLINE HENRY

“Welcome to my August newsletter, I am proud to share with you the latest update from my Office. This includes new projects tackling antisocial behaviour as well as rural and retail crime.

I wanted to also share the exciting news that we are enhancing the services that support victims of crime. Read more on page 3!

- PCC Caroline Henry



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## Rural crime being tackled

Dozens of teenagers involved in wildlife crime have been shown the error of their ways thanks to £62,000 worth of funding into a programme near Newark.

Hill Holt Wood in Norton Disney had initially been working alongside Newark and Sherwood District Council and Nottinghamshire Police before receiving funding from my 'Rural Crime' thematic grant, as part of my Make Notts Safe Fund.

The project itself is aimed at reducing rural crime through education, prevention programmes and restorative activities.

## Businesses unite against retail crime

Business owners came together to discuss the impact of retail crime and ways to reduce it in the future.

Part of the day saw prolific shoplifters known to the police being visited and directed to attend a 'problem-solving drop-in hub', where they were able to speak with support agencies to help divert them from future offending.

The fact that the Safer Business Action Day was held in Nottingham shows we take this type of crime seriously.





## **New scheme launched to promote healthy relationships in schools**

Nottinghamshire Police, Ashfield District Council and my office have teamed up with domestic abuse charity, Equation, and local schools to deliver a bespoke programme across Kirkby-in-Ashfield.

The programme, which addresses misogyny, inappropriate behaviour and domestic abuse is part of the Safer Streets fund. Promoting healthy relationships from a young age is so important when it comes to preventing violence against women and girls.

## **Youth centre opens thanks to Safer Streets**

A share of £250,000 of Safer Streets funding helped get the Ridge Adventure Centre, in Ridgeway, Top Valley, back in action in February 2023. This money is also providing three evening sessions a week for young people to attend activities including boxing, football, table tennis and pool.

It is hoped the centre will have a lasting impact by reducing antisocial behaviour in the area.



## **Another Way project**

Young people being exploited or groomed into a violent criminal lifestyle are being offered 'Another Way,' with tailored support to free themselves from gang influence.

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Violence Reduction Partnership is leading the programme that will work with up to 250 young people who are seen to be at risk of violence, both as victims or offenders, due to their gang associations.

Young people who have been exploited to peddle drugs as part of County Lines activity could be among those offered the chance to free themselves from the grasp of organised criminals and start a brighter future with better life prospects.

The Another Way programme is being targeted at people aged between 14 to 24 who live in the city of Nottingham and will involve key stakeholders, including Nottinghamshire Police and Nottingham City Council, working together to put a package of tailored support in place to prevent offending.

Serious violence causes high levels of harm to our communities. While our police do an excellent job in enforcement when violence occurs, we need to also find ways to get ahead and prevent violence from happening in the first place because the cost of violence to our communities is immeasurable. Another Way allows us to invest in giving people a way to free themselves of their criminal associations and put violence behind them, so that we protect our communities from further harm.





# New services

## Restorative justice scheme improved to support more victims

A service which helps victims of crime to get closure is being invigorated to support even more people across Nottinghamshire.

Restorative justice allows victims the chance to obtain much-needed answers following a crime to help set their mind at ease or at least understand the motivation of the perpetrator.

It does this by allowing victims to communicate with the perpetrator in a way they are comfortable with, and receive an explanation, an apology or other forms of reparation.

The process also enables perpetrators to understand the real-life impact their crime has had and can change their behaviour as a result.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Nottinghamshire has teamed up with Nottinghamshire City and County Probation Service to co-commission a new contract to deliver an enhanced offer until March 2027 – under the banner of Restorative Nottinghamshire.

Remedi, a national restorative justice specialist, has been awarded the contract following a competitive tendering process and has been tasked with proactively contacting victims of crime to offer restorative justice services and to increase the take-up, from 1 October 2023.



## Victim care service enhanced to help more people in Notts

Nottinghamshire Victim CARE is a free service offering people the chance to speak to a trained victim support professional who can provide a range of practical and emotional support.

The new service will help victims of crime as well those affected by antisocial behaviour, hate incidents, road traffic crime and identity theft. Young people and children affected by crime will have access to a new dedicated service tailored for their needs.

The service aims to empower victims to cope and recover from crime, by providing expert victim support and advocacy. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Nottinghamshire recently commissioned a new contract to deliver an enhanced offer until March 2027.

Outgoing provider Catch 22 have delivered the service since 2016, and played a key role in helping those negatively affected by the major incident in Nottingham back in June.

They will be replaced by Remedi, a national Victim Care specialist, who have been awarded the contract following a competitive tendering process and has been tasked with providing victims of crime and their families the best possible support, from 1 October 2023.



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## New youth outreach project

Youth workers are taking to the streets to positively engage with young people in their own environment as part of a drive to reduce violent crime.

The new detached youth work outreach programme recognises that some young people don't access traditional youth clubs – so instead it sends trained professionals to go out to meet young people in their own neighbourhoods.

## Ex-Military personal get first taste of front-line policing

The first cohort of ex-military personnel took part in a passing out parade in July. It comes after Nottinghamshire Police and the University of Derby recently launched the country's first scheme to provide a direct employment pathway for those in their military resettlement period to join the police service.

I am so proud to have played a role in bringing together previous Policing Minister and Veterans' Minister with our former Chief Constable to make the scheme a reality.



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