## Connect

October 2023



### NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER CAROLINE HENRY

Welcome to my October newsletter. In this edition I have shared how we are welcoming university students, tackling rural crime and making nights out safer in Nottinghamshire. I have also shared part of my Annual Report 2022-23, to read the full version please scan the QR code below. Please take some time to take part and share our 'Speak up Notts' campaign below.

- PCC Caroline Henry





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# We want your views on preventing violence and making communities safer in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire

#SpeakupNotts is an online survey by Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Violence Reduction Partnership. It is an opportunity to share your experience and what you think we can do to prevent violence and make our communities safer. Whether you live or work in Nottinghamshire, we want you to take part and change how we tackle serious violence.

Take part, before 18 October 2023, by scanning the QR code above or visiting our website.



### What is the Serious Violence Duty?

The Serious Violence Duty is a legal requirement that requires specified authorities to work together and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence in their local area. This includes; Police, Justice, Fire and Rescue, Health and Local Authorities.

If you would like to find out more about the Serious Violence Duty please scan the QR code above, or for future updates please follow @NottsVRP on social media.







### My Annual Report 2022-23

### Nine out of ten victims of crime bounced back after help from specialist support services in Nottinghamshire



Around 20,000 people were referred into victim services funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner in the last year, including Nottinghamshire Victim CARE.

Of those who received enhanced support from these services, 90% said they were better able to cope with everyday life or recover from harm after receiving this support - an increase of 8% on the previous year.

Nottinghamshire Victim CARE offers practical support and advice to victims of crime and antisocial behaviour. This includes emotional support, advocacy with other agencies, advice on improving security and general crime prevention, or support applying for Criminal Injuries Compensation.

The success of support services in providing that much-needed help to victims in Nottinghamshire is among a number of highlights outlined in my Annual Report for 2022-23, which was presented to the Police and Crime Panel on Monday 25 September 2023.



There have been some challenges in recent times to the public confidence in policing nationally. But I believe the work that is happening locally will help to rebuild this trust. Recently, the tragic multiple homocide in Nottingham in June 2023 and the death in service of Sergeant Graham Saville in August 2023 sent shockwaves through the community. Both served as important reminders of the bravery, professionalism and sacrifice shown by our offices on a daily basis as they work to keep Nottinghamshire Safe.

You can read my full Annual Report for 2022-23 on my website, or by scanning the QR code on the front page of my newsletter.

#### Freshers encouraged to seek out 'Safe Space' van if in need

University students were given a safe and warm welcome to Nottingham during Freshers Week in September, with additional high-visibility help for anyone in need.

A Safe Space van was deployed to Canning Circus, at the top of Derby Road, in the city centre throughout the week to give added peace of mind as thousands of young adults come to study at the city's two universities and enjoy Nottingham's famous nightlife.

I joined Chief Inspector Chris Pearson and members of Nottingham City Council's Community Protection Team on a night out seeing the Safe Space van in action.



#### Drink testing kits launched to offer extra safety net for community

A brand-new scheme testing people's drinks for banned substances is now live in bars and venues in Worksop thanks to Safer Streets funding.

Drink testing kits have been distributed out to a number of licensed premises to add that extra safety net for those enjoying a night out or drink in the town.

Simple to use and effective, the staff member dips a swab into the suspected spiked drink and places it onto a test square, before waiting only 10 seconds for a positive or negative result.

If a test is positive the drink will be carefully secured, and police called. The kits test for drugs such as cocaine, ecstasy, street GHB and Rohypnol.



#### Follow us on Neighbourhood Alert

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Nottinghamshire is now on Nottinghamshire's Neighourbood Alert. We will be sharing key messages about services for local residents and opportunities, such as the Speak Up Notts campaign, to allow you to have an influence on local policing and how we tackle crime together.

You can sign up to Nottinghamshire Alert today, to not only receive updates from my office but to receive information from Nottinghamshire Police and Neighbourhood Watch schemes. The system enables us and our partners a quick and effective way to share information.

To subscribe, simply scan the QR code on the front page of this newsletter to visit the website.



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### Ollerton Farm set for enhanced security to tackle rural crime

A farm that has been targeted by several break-ins is set to benefit from free security upgrades - as part of a rural crimebusting scheme funded by my Safer4All fund.

Rural crime is a huge issue which affects our most vulnerable and isolated communities in Nottinghamshire, and leaves lasting damage on its victims. This £200,000 project aims to help secure rural homes and businesses across Bassetlaw and Newark and Sherwood districts, which include some of the biggest rural spaces in the county.

The funding builds on my commitment to tackle rural crime as part of my Make Notts Safe policing plan which has also allowed officers across the force to undertake more training surrounding rural crime. This includes national rural crime training for beat officers, farm awareness and health and safety training and five new rural crime points of contact within the control room.

Call handlers and dispatchers are also given additional training by the National Farmers' Union to help them better understand and respond to the unique impact that rural crime can have when they assess the threat, risk and harm caused by the incident being reported.

There are now 48 police constables and PCSOs across the force who have access to this specialist equipment, resources, and training to increase awareness and ensure a better service for victims in their areas. Surveys by the National Farmers' Union have proven that all this extra resource is working and providing better reassurance. Farmers in Nottinghamshire are now 40% more likely to make a complaint if they are victims of crime, and that they feel much more comfortable in doing so.

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