



# SPOTLIGHT

## on safer Derbyshire

### WELCOME



*This year has been undeniably tough. We have temporarily lost freedoms we took for granted, but it has made us appreciate them more. We have seen the horrific toll coronavirus*

*has had on our nation, our communities, our businesses and ourselves as individuals. Yet the fortitude and tolerance shown by Derbyshire communities has been nothing short of remarkable. It really has been Team Derbyshire.*

*I would also like to place on record my thanks to the all the public services who have worked relentlessly to keep us safe. They have had an unenviable job, sometimes working with little guidance, yet they have carried on with courage and professionalism.*

*As we draw towards the end of the year, with the hope that the dawn of a new year brings, I wish you a happy and safe festive season. It won't be quite the same, but it will be special nonetheless.*

*Let's hope that 2021 is a good, positive year for us all.*

*Hardyal Dhindsa  
Police & Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire*



### Supporting the police

*Financially speaking, the future is once again tough.*

At the end of November, we were told that the Government was once again planning to rely on local taxpayers to pick up yet more of the bill for policing, while it was considering a flat cash grant. This means local people pay more, we receive the same amount as last year from the centre, which, given inflation and other overhead costs, amounts to a cut.

The austerity years hit the service, and all those working within it, hard and it is simply unreasonable to expect them to face those pressures again when we are barely half-way back to the numbers we had in 2010.

We are only just beginning to see the positive results of growth. Any cutbacks will threaten the progress made in recent years. The public who have supported that growth through the increase in the policing portion of the Council Tax bill do not deserve to have that backing eroded.

The Chief Constable has told me, in no uncertain terms, that in order to continue to deliver our services, the establishment of sufficient and stable funding for the future is crucial.

*continued >*

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### Supporting the Police continued

She stressed that a standstill budget, with no growth for any new or mainstreamed priorities, would create a deficit of £0.5m in 2021/22, rising to a £9m deficit in 2024/25 based on the reasonable assumptions of limited council tax precepts and no future increases in Central Government grant funding.

The government has also reduced the number of police officers promised for next year as part of its uplift

programme. Nationally there were to be 8000, now we are told to expect 6000.

We are currently working our way through options, but without firm figures it is difficult. There is one thing I do know, I will not stop calling for a fairer funding deal for Derbyshire Constabulary.

# MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFER

*Over the last four years I have heard from many victims of crime, and indeed those whose job it is to protect them from crime. In many instances, crimes may have been preventable, had a little bit of funding been invested in the right place at the right time.*

That's why I have made nearly £500,000 available in a fund designed to improving the quality of life in neighbourhoods across the City and the County.

This Fund is helping both individuals and groups. It will protect people, help victims and keep crime at bay. It will help to tackle ASB, make property more secure, protect people and support sustainable community projects.

Grants are being awarded to those seeking to solve problems within our communities. They are being allocated on need and people can apply for that vital £50 to change a lock, to £25,000 for a community project. This fund is central to my ambition to improve safety in Derbyshire and simultaneously reduce the demand in calls for service.

My 'Vulnerability Fund' will provide help to people at risk of harm or criminality and address the social problems known to increase the risk of crime or victimisation.

I look forward to seeing this fund make a real difference to you, your families and the wider community.

**The Commissioner's Vulnerability Fund**  
Safer and Stronger Communities

**Let's make Derbyshire safer – together.**

Do you have an idea to keep your community safe?  
Do you know someone who needs help?

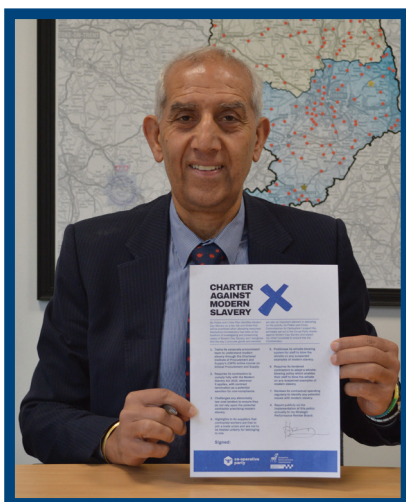
PCC Hardyaj Dhindsa has allocated £485,000 to tackle the issues that affect quality of life in communities and to make communities stronger.

Grants are available from £50 up to £25k to support and improve lives and make Derbyshire a safer place to live.

This fund helps both individuals and groups, protecting people, helping victims and keeping crime at bay.

From tackling ASB, making property more secure, protecting those who are vulnerable for any reason to supporting sustainable community projects, this fund can help.

Visit the PCC's website at: [www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk/VF](http://www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk/VF) to find out more.



## No place for Modern Slavery in Derbyshire

*This month I signed a new pledge to prevent exploitation when procuring goods and services.*

This makes me the first PCC to sign up to the Co-operative Party's Charter Against Modern Slavery pledging to investigate and eradicate modern slavery in supply chains and promote ethical business practices among

the Force's contractors and suppliers.

The Charter provides guidance to PCCs on how to identify and manage modern slavery risks in their existing contracts and new procurement activity.

As a signatory, I am now committed to annual reporting on the implementation of the policy at the end of every financial year.

# SAFER ROADS IN DERBYSHIRE

*I have previously reported that speeding was an issue raised week after week at my engagement meetings throughout Derbyshire, which is why road safety is become one of my top priorities.*

Last month I joined teams across the county conducting enforcement as part of Operation Brake.

Data released by Derbyshire Police shows just under 1,000 offences were recorded on the county's roads during the operation.

Roads policing officers captured 361 offences and issued 226 verbal warnings/advice while 135 fixed penalty notices were handed out.

Of the speeding offences, 302 were committed in a 30mph limit, 58 in a 40mph limit and one in a 70mph limit.

I have pledged to support road safety schemes, evidenced by the number of community speed-watches I have supported and the boost to the Derbyshire Road Safety Team.



Speeding causes misery for residents and puts the lives of pedestrians and other drivers in danger and we are doing everything we can to tackle it.

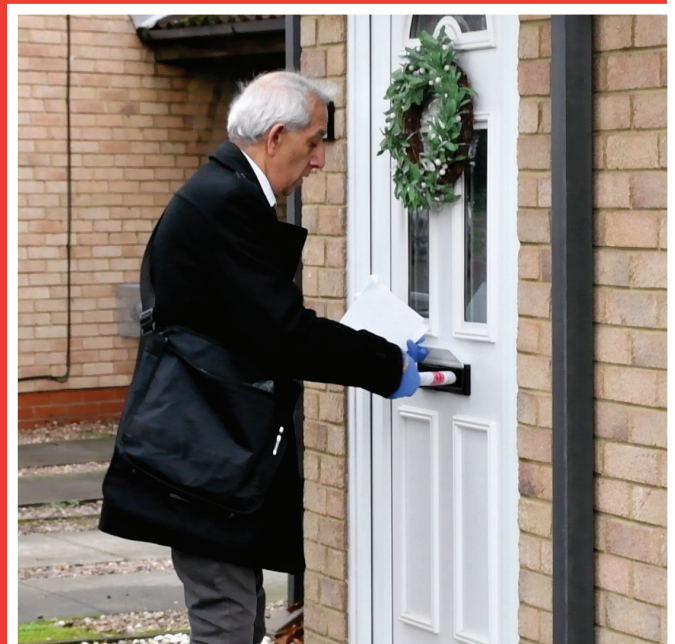
## Making West End properties more secure

*This week I have been handing out leaflets informing residents in the West End of Derby how to access free security measures.*

Earlier in the year I secured £514k from the Home Office's £25m Safer Streets Fund to deliver a catalogue of safety improvements including an advanced CCTV system consisting of 12 (night-vision) high-powered cameras and poles to prevent knife-point robberies, domestic burglaries and shoplifting on key routes within the area.

In the latest phase of the project, residents in the West End area are being invited to book a free crime prevention appointment which will see staff from Derby Homes attending their property to recommend and install necessary crime prevention improvements. These could include solar lights and improved window locks.

This is an exciting opportunity for residents in the West End who want to improve security at their home and feel safer but at no extra cost.



# AROUND THE COUNTY



Chief & PCC on patrol in Swadlincote



On patrol in Swadlincote



Trauma kit delivery in Derby



New PCs and PCSOs at Clay Cross



South Normanton visit



Whaley Bridge walkabout



Belper with Commissioner and Deputy



Swadlincote walkabout with Rachel Swann



Wirksworth with local councillors & residents



Somercotes walkabout with councillors & residents



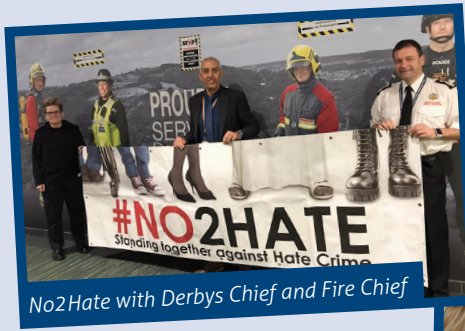
Project Edward



Night time economy Derby



Night time economy Derby



No2Hate with Derbys Chief and Fire Chief



Matlock Green visit with residents



Matlock Bath visit with residents



Dale Abbey visit



Chesterfield Muslim Association



Fairfield, Buxton visit



Kirk Hallam walkabout



Hurst Farm – Community Safety Day



Buxton roadside checks



Ilkeston Parkside High (CIC)



Belper – Brake Week



Derby West End visit



High Sheriff Peak Pilgrimage



Community Speedwatch launch – Littleover



Christmas preparations



# A MORE DIVERSE WORKFORCE

Had it not been for the long years of austerity I have no doubt that we would have been able to welcome more new recruits from diverse backgrounds. I have always stated that I wanted to see a workforce that truly represents the community it serves.

I have been pleased to discuss my aims and objectives with a number of groups representing

diverse communities throughout the year, although the pandemic has made these a virtual event in the last nine months.

Now, I have decided to appoint an independent expert advisor, to work with me to understand the challenges across a range of different diverse groups situated throughout the county and help develop a work programme to

address issues raised and tackle barriers identified.

I am delighted that the Chief Constable has set up a Group within the constabulary to address representation and diversity within the newly recruited cohorts and look forward to working with her to really make a difference.

## More PCSOs

*Police and Community Support Officers (PCSOs) play a hugely important role in our communities as part of our neighbourhood policing teams and I was privileged to attend the final graduation for 2020 last month.*

I'm pleased that my budget has allowed us to increase PCSO numbers in Derbyshire and you may have already seen our new PCSOs in areas such as: Amber Valley, Chaddesden, Chesterfield, Cotton Lane, Derbyshire Dales,



Erewash, High Peak, Peartree and Staveley.

I would like to give a special thank you to our trainers. In March they all adapted to a new

way of teaching and continued to deliver high-quality lessons. They've successfully trained over 220 police constables, PCSOs and special constables this year, which is a credit to everyone.

# Cutting Crime

*Having proved in Derbyshire how sport has a vital role in preventing youth crime I am delighted that my work has been used to shape a new national board to promote and develop the role of sport.*

I have been appointed as chair of the new PCC National Sport and Youth Crime Prevention Board which brings together PCCs inviting experts across community sport and youth justice to shape the future of sports-driven crime intervention in the future.

The Board will act as a learning hub for all forms of sports-based crime prevention work and will lobby Government to align funding strategies and influence future policy decisions, priorities and actions.



## LISTENING TO YOU

*There is a myriad of ways in which I am 'listening to you'. My survey is one such way, which you can do on the website, or in person at one of our roadshows.*

However, you can always get in touch

Phone: 0300 122 6000

[www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk)

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Twitter: @DerbysPCC

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/DerbyshirePCC](http://www.facebook.com/DerbyshirePCC)

## FOOTNOTE

This newsletter is produced to give you an overview of the work of my office and of course, me! We are always open to ideas for articles and if there is some area of our work that you would like to see in here, either as a regular update or a one-off please get in touch.

I'm always pleased to hear from members of the public so please, if something is concerning you, or you wish to compliment the service you have received, either pick up the phone or email us.