

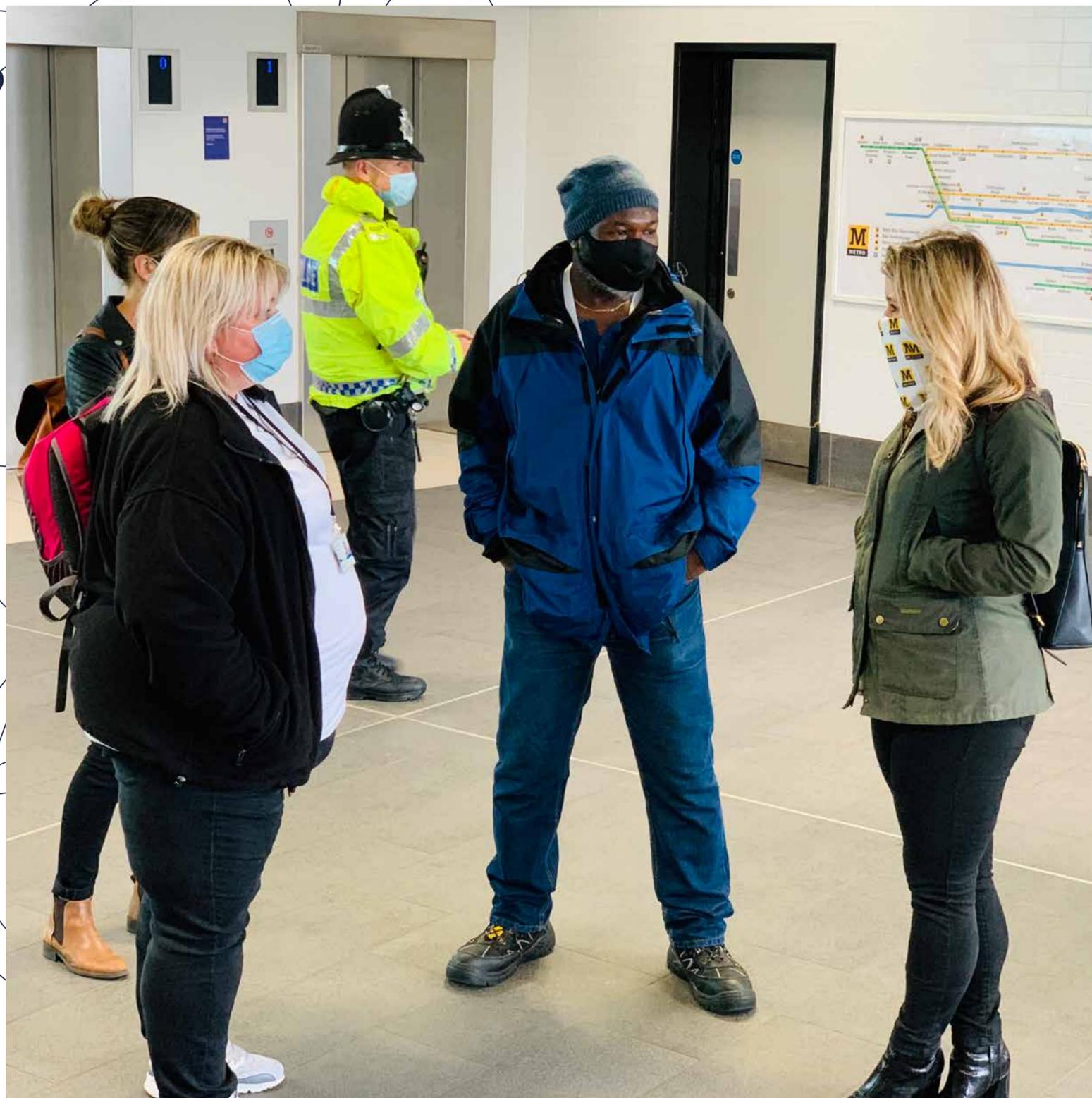
NORTHUMBRIA
**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

violence
reduction
unit

Improving lives to prevent crime

KIM MCGUINNESS

NEWSLETTER



WELCOME TO MY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to my newsletter. Let me begin with a big thank you to everyone who has shared their views as part of my 'Fighting Crime, Preventing Crime' survey.

Whether you have completed it, shared it online or spread the word among family, friends and colleagues, it's been working. So far, we have had more than 5,000 responses, which is a great start. That said, we still need more, so I'm grateful of every push you're able to give.

The survey is there for everyone in our region. I want it to capture as many views and opinions as possible on policing issues and community needs. I want to know what matters to you. Now is the time to give some really honest feedback - your concerns, frustrations, what you want more or less of. All of this will help me shape a plan for the Force for the next four years. I want to make sure everyone who lives, works and visits our region feels safe, welcome and supported.

So, whether it's cutting down anti-social behaviour in your neighbourhood, reducing violence in our region, getting more police on our streets or creating a better future for our young people - this is the time to make it happen.

To complete the survey visit: <http://bit.ly/PCPCon2020>

Kim McGuinness
Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner

Share your views by completing this survey - <http://bit.ly/PCPCon2020>

FIGHTING CRIME, PREVENTING CRIME SURVEY GOES DIGITAL

We had it all planned. We'd hoped to be touring the region for two months on an engagement bus to get as many views as possible for my 'Fighting Crime, Preventing Crime' survey, but it wasn't to be.

Like many of you with your own personal plans such as holidays, parties, events - cancelling was the only option. Public safety must come first.

So, with plans to get out into our big cities, our coastal towns and our rural villages not happening, we have decided to go big with all things online. So, launching this week we have the second phase of our consultation and it's all digital.

Make sure you're following my social media channels as we ask the big questions, start important discussions and invite you to have your say on the fight against crime in the North East.

#PLEASEDOYOURBIT

The North East's fight against Covid-19 continues

Here we are again in a national lockdown. The reasons why we need to stay home haven't changed. We need to protect our NHS and we need to save lives, and your police force will enforce the rules with those who refuse to follow them.

I am thankful that the vast majority of people in our region have understood the need for the measures imposed so far, despite the poor communication from Government. I am also thankful to Northumbria Police. It goes without saying that renewed restrictions do place enormous strain on all our emergency services, who keep doing a great job rising to the challenge. None of this is easy for anyone.

When it comes to imposing the rules, our officers are keen to get the balance right but tough enforcement will be used when it comes to keeping the people of our region safe.

I'll continue calling for clarity on what happens after lockdown is lifted. In the meantime, let's all keep doing our bit to protect each other - our family, friends and community.

A lockdown isn't worth having if we don't all adhere to it. We've got a way to go yet but together we can help our great region get the virus under control.

Northumbria Police set to smash new officer recruitment target



I'm pleased to update you that our efforts to get more uniformed officers out on the streets of the North East are working and Government targets are being smashed.

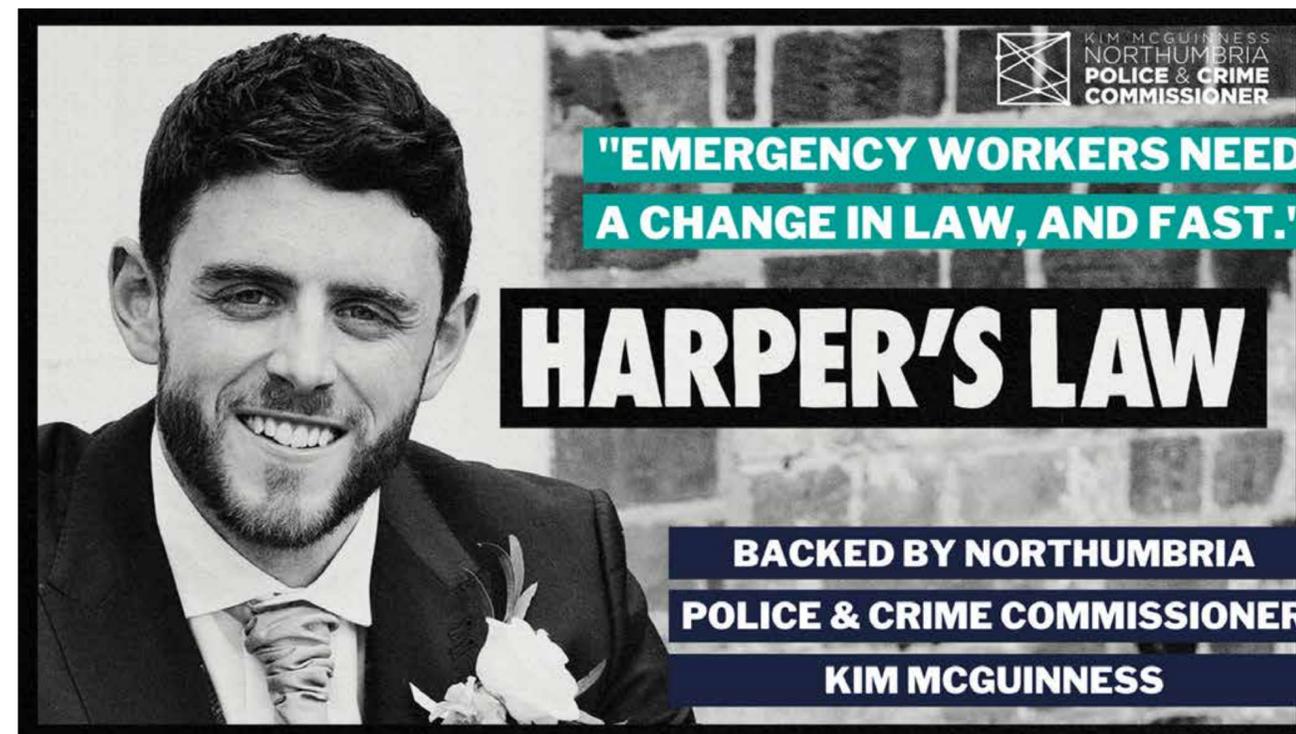
Last month the Home Office provided a national update on police uplift figures for the country and we're all set to exceed the targets set by recruiting up to 133 additional officers by the end of the financial year.

We expect to have a total of 318 more officers in post by March 2021. These numbers are in addition to planned force recruitment to address regular attrition.

I've met some really talented people who have joined us recently from a wide range of backgrounds too. As they go on to complete their training, we can look forward to a greater visible presence of police officers out in our communities, making people feel safer.

THE HARPER'S LAW CAMPAIGN GETS MY BACKING

Last month I had a virtual meeting with Lissie Harper to discuss the Harper's Law Campaign. The campaign wants to see life sentences for those who kill emergency workers on duty. It is inspired by the shocking killing of Lissie's late husband PC Andrew Harper.



Andrew, a 28-year-old policeman was dragged to his death by a getaway car in Berkshire in August 2019. In July this year, three teenagers were convicted of manslaughter and received sentences of 16 and 13 years' imprisonment. The short sentence lengths caused great anger among PC Harper's family and friends, as well as public outrage.

We shouldn't even need to be campaigning for this but the fact that we are is a credit to

the dignified determination of Lissie. What she has been through is horrific and yet remarkably she has found the strength to fight for really necessary changes to our justice system.

Protecting the protectors should be a given - it really is common sense. There is, without doubt, a gap in the law that needs filling and it's long overdue. Emergency workers give so much and deserve so much more.

You can sign the petition here [LINK](#).

BURGLARY:

A robust approach must be taken for serial offenders



A prolific criminal, who committed a staggering 170 offences across Wearside, was rightly put back behind bars in October, thanks to Northumbria Police officers catching him after he tried to break into a family home.

There's no doubt that this man's crimes over the years will have had a devastating impact on his victims and the local communities he's targeted. The streets are safer without him.

Officers will make no apology for a robust approach to serial offenders. They will use every tactic possible to put seasoned criminals in front of the courts. Read more [here](#).

APPEAL FOR MORE

VENUES TO BECOME 'SAFE

PLACES' THROUGHOUT

NORTHUMBERLAND

Last month I visited Amble-based Splinter Group, which supports more than 40 young adults with learning difficulties through a range of support sessions, social events and community initiatives such as 'Safe Places'.

Earlier this year, I awarded them almost £4,000 in funding to help them expand the 'Safe Places' scheme locally - to support people with learning difficulties throughout the pandemic - a time of heightened anxieties for many.

The 'Safe Places' scheme is part of a national network designed to help vulnerable people if they feel scared or at risk while they are out and about in the community and need support right away.

Members of the group are calling on other local supermarkets, coffee shops and bus stations to get in touch to see if they can help the number of Safe Places grow in our region.

With all that's going on right now, we can't afford to forget the needs of our vulnerable people - people are still catching buses, going to the shops and they could feel vulnerable at any time. That's why schemes like this are vital.



WEAR RED DAY



KIM MCGUINNESS
NORTHUMBRIA
POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER

On the 16th October my team digitally came together donning their finest red attire for Wear Red Day. We all wanted to take a stand against racism and show our continued support for Show Racism the Red Card who we are proud to work with. There really is no place for racism in the North East.



OUR ADVISORY GROUPS ARE APPEALING FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS

We are on the hunt for more volunteers from our North East communities to get on board as members of our advisory groups. We have groups covering gender, victims, BAME and faith, LGBTQ, age and disability. Maybe you have experiences to share or are well connected in your community and want help improve relationships with the police and address local concerns. If you think you can help please contact nitin.shukla@northumbria-pcc.gov.uk for more information.choices.

We have proven in other communities across the region how impactful place based interventions can be, and I'm confident this will have the same results.

Let's Talk...

Follow me

You can follow my work as Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria.



@NorthumbriaPCC



@pcc_kim_mcguinness



@KiMcGuinness

Northumbria Violence Reduction Unit

I now have a dedicated Facebook page on the work of my Northumbria Violence Reduction Unit - you can like it here - [@NorthumbriaVRU](#)