

NORTHUMBRIA
**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

violence
reduction
unit

Improving lives to prevent crime

KIM MCGUINNESS

NEWSLETTER

WELCOME TO MY NEWSLETTER

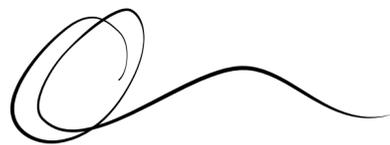
I want to start off by saying how proud I am that so many people from the North East have continued to support me as I campaigned to become your police and crime commissioner for a second time round.

You've asked me to keep going with the plan of supporting our police to fight crime and working with others across our region to prevent crime, and I'm grateful for the trust you placed in me to deliver on this.

Over the last few years we have made a real start on our plans to fight and prevent crime and I'm honoured you've given me the green light to keep pushing forward with this work. And, no matter who you voted for, I am your police commissioner, and you have my word when I say I will keep engaging, keep listening and keep being a voice for all people and all communities.

So, the work of my office and my Violence Reduction Unit continues, and I'm more ready than ever to get on with the job in hand. It's been a difficult year and there will be challenges ahead but I look forward to working with you to improve lives for the people of our region.

Keep in touch,



Kim McGuinness
Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner



Photo: NCJMedia

[Watch my thank you video here](#)

ELECTION PRIORITIES RECAP

You've told me you want a force focused on fighting crime and preventing crime – and that is what I am going to deliver by focusing on the following:

FIGHTING CRIME

- Tackling anti-social behaviour – plans for a new joined up approach are underway
- Reducing crime – I will invest in resources, technology and training to keep our streets safe

PREVENTING CRIME

- Preventing violent crime – the work of my Violence Reduction Unit will keep expanding, providing interventions and opportunities for young people
- Neighbourhood policing – named police officers in each area

IMPROVING LIVES

- Supporting victims – a new system is to be introduced to support all victims of crime
- Tackling domestic abuse – I will build on the VAWG strategy and run awareness campaigns to promote the support available

You can read my full Police and Crime Plan [here](#).



FIGHTING CRIME



County Lines is a form of criminal exploitation where urban gangs persuade, coerce or force children and young people to store drugs and money and/or transport them to suburban areas, market towns and coastal towns.

COUNTY LINES INTENSIFICATION WEEK

Over the next few months I am going to be sharing with you some of the amazing work that's happening behind the scenes, by officers, to fight crime in our region and there's no better way to kick this off than by updating you on some of the force's successes from the week.

We are determined to crackdown and disrupt the networks that devastate communities, and put an end to the violence and exploitation of children and vulnerable adults.

Highlights from the week of action include:

- **23 people arrested**
- **More than £20,000 criminal cash seized**

In our region, we are seeing children as young as 13 are being targeted and worryingly, more and more children are leaving the NE to work on in other parts of the country. Cuts to youth services have undoubtedly led to a growth in this problem. Ending this kind of violence and getting on top of youth drug dealing requires long-term planning and more support for at-risk children and young people - this is the top priority for my Violence Reduction Unit.

PREVENTING CRIME



WE HAVE TO BE PREPARED FOR RISING CRIME

As we progress through the end of the lockdown stages we have to be prepared for the potential of some types of crime rising.

There's potential for violent crime to rise as well as crime related to the recession and low levels of employment.

We need to be prepared for that. It's about preventing it before it happens. We have to be ready and that's why work like the VRU's training package for educators around knife crime has been a real hit. By up skilling those working directly with young people, we can support them at the earliest stage and prevent crime.

The training gives staff the knowledge & information to spot the warning signs, better understand the law, and what services are available to support vulnerable young people in our area.

IMPROVING LIVES



MAKING VICTIMS FEEL SAFE

What's Anita up to busily loading her car in the rain? Well, she is delivering a range of security packs to help support survivors of domestic abuse.

This is part of a project we are funding with Drive and Barnardo's that works with high-harm, high-risk and serial perpetrators of domestic abuse to prevent their abusive behaviour and protect victims. Whilst the focus of Drive is on tackling the behaviour of perpetrators, its core purpose is the protection of adult and child victims and these deliveries are about taking action to make victims feel safe.

CRIME DATA UPDATE



The latest Office for National Statistics (ONS) Crime data is very welcoming news, but there is still a lot of work to do.

Various lockdowns and restrictions have of course contributed to this, as well as a change in the types of crime being committed over the past 12 months.

But Northumbria Police, supported by my office and Northumbria Violence Reduction Unit will keep fighting crime and working to prevent it.

9%

FALL in total recorded crime

16%

FALL in knife and sharp instrument offences

11%

FALL in violence against the person

Source: Office for National Statistics

IN OTHER NEWS



A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to all the volunteers that help my office and help Northumbria Police in their efforts to fight crime and keep communities safe. From our Special Constables to our Mini Police – we are lucky to have each and every one of you on our team, giving up your time to make a difference, so thank you.

HAVE YOUR SAY TO HELP ME SECURE GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Do you feel safe?

Later this month I will be launching a Safer Streets survey to find out just how safe you feel at home, on a night out, and around your local community. Please follow my social media channels to have your say.

COMING UP NEXT TIME

Find out:

- about the new recruits we have welcomed to the force and I'll tell you more about how we are recruiting above and beyond Government targets.
- more about my plans to rid communities of ASB as mentioned in the Chronicle [here](#).

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](#)