



July 2024



Hello from your PCC

I have spent my life fighting for our communities and by taking on this role, my fight is stepping up a gear.

For decades, I have engaged with communities, and I know the issues and concerns they have.

And so, my offer to you is clear – I'll do everything I can to prevent serious violence, make our streets safer and our communities stronger.

Susan Dungworth
Northumbria Police & Crime Commissioner

Response to Serious Violence

Tackling serious violence remains a key priority, leading to the development of the [Northumbria Response Strategy](#).

Developed in collaboration with multiple partners, this long-term strategy aims to address the root causes of violence and improve safety in communities.

Following extensive consultations to understand local needs, five key priorities have been identified:

- Creating stronger systems,
- Utilising data and intelligence,
- Implementing prevention and early intervention,
- Enforcement action to disrupt violent offenders,
- Supporting communities in local decision-making.

This approach reflects a united effort to tackling violence across Northumbria.



CREATING STRONGER SYSTEMS:



Local Youth Fund - NOW OPEN

Providing young people with a platform to voice their views and ideas for preventing serious violence and knife crime.

With £16,000 available, the fund invites young people to put forward innovative ideas for projects that have a benefit to them and the communities they live in. Read more [here](#).

Involving Young People

The North East Youth Symposium brought together over 90 young people with key decision makers from across the region.

During the event, young people highlighted the issues that matter most to them, and the importance of having their voices heard.

Young people led discussions, delivered insightful presentations and gave inspiring performances, covering a number of topics including tackling knife crime and improving safety in communities.

By showcasing their passion, creativity and commitment, the event reinforced the pivotal role of young people in shaping policies and initiatives that directly affect their lives.



UTILISING DATA AND INTELLIGENCE:

The Seasonal Violence Fund

Utilising data and intelligence, we provide a programme of activity in areas of identified need, to prevent spikes in seasonal violence

Working closely with the six Community Safety Partnerships, we develop projects aimed at identifying individuals causing significant harm in communities and diverting them from crime

Featuring initiatives to disrupt violent offenders and improve feelings of safety, including extra patrols, uniformed officers and diversionary activities for young people.

This targeted work has resulted in significant reductions in serious violence and ASB across Northumbria.



PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION:

6 Years of YOLO

Celebrating 6 years of YOLO, our youth mentoring programme, that has helped divert hundreds of young people at risk of knife crime.

Through working in partnership with the region's two football foundations, Sunderland and Newcastle, we continue to provide young people with:

- 1:1 support from a dedicated mentor.
- Tailored interventions to address needs and behaviour.
- Opportunities to engage in diversionary activities such as sport, music and art to help young people make good life choices.





Improving Mental Health

Discover how we are empowering young men in Berwick to overcome challenges, and improve their well-being.

With dedicated support from a Rise worker, we are transforming lives, addressing issues such as unemployment, health concerns, isolation and financial struggles. Watch Deacon's story [here](#).

ENFORCEMENT ACTION:

Operation Sceptre

During a dedicated week of action to tackle knife crime, we seen a number of fantastic results including 229 knives seized and 228 arrests made by Northumbria Police.

However, although this week of action sees increased activity, this great work continues all year round.

Alongside a range of partners, we aim to provide diversionary activities to disrupt violent offenders and work with young people to educate them on the dangers of knife crime, and supporting them to make positive life choices.



SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES:



Increasing Your Awareness

We offer a range of training sessions to equip you with the skills and knowledge you need to keep yourself and others safe.

This includes awareness of knife crime, vulnerability or becoming a domestic abuse champion in your workplace. Find out more [here](#).

Have Your Say

Susan Dungworth has launched her Police and Crime consultation - your opportunity to share what matters the most to you locally.

Your views and feedback will help ensure that investment and focus is put into the right areas, and that the force are held to account. Have your say [here](#).



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