



May 2025



Hello from your PCC

I am committed to ensuring you feel safe, whether out in public places or in the comfort of your own home.

I've prioritised being in communities, listening to residents, and understanding what matters most to you. That's why tackling serious and organised crime is a key priority in my [Police and Crime Plan](#).

Through the Violence Reduction Unit, Northumbria Police, and local partners, we're working to address the root causes of serious violence, making sure the right support is in place for individuals, families, and communities.

By taking this joined-up approach, we have already made real progress with reductions in serious violence, knife crime, and hospital admissions, but we know there is more to be done.

This isn't about quick fixes, it's about creating lasting change. Together, we will build safer streets, and stronger communities for everyone.

Susan Dungworth
Northumbria Police & Crime Commissioner

IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS...

5.8% ↓ reduction in serious violence across Northumbria.

5.7% ↓ reduction in offences involving a knife across Northumbria.

28% ↓ reduction in hospital admissions due to an assault.

34% ↓ reduction in hospital admissions due to an assault with a sharp object.

FIVE YEARS OF IMPACT

This [latest data](#) shows real impact over the last 12 months, with reductions in serious violence, knife-related incidents, and hospital admissions caused by sharp objects.

Since 2019, we have taken a long-term public health approach to tackling the root causes of violence, focusing on prevention, early intervention, and working closely with local communities.

With £2.2 million secured through the Government's Safer Streets Mission, we're building on these results to deliver even more for our communities. Read more [here](#).





NEW COUNTY LINES AWARENESS FILM

Our powerful new film tackling the exploitation of young people through County Lines is now available as a vital resource in the fight against serious youth violence.

Featuring local people, accents, and even a local school, the film is designed to raise awareness and empower young people to make safe and informed choices.

The film has already been shared widely, helping secondary school students, parents and professionals to recognise the warning signs and prevent exploitation.

This latest release forms part of our ongoing work to address the root causes of serious violence and improve the lives of young and vulnerable people. Watch the film [here](#).

OVER 100 TRAINED AMBASSADORS

Our Violence Prevention Ambassadors Programme now has a powerful network of over 100 youth workers, practitioners, and community leaders, each committed to tackling the root causes of serious violence.

Through a series of online training modules, we're equipping Ambassadors with the knowledge and tools to intervene early, helping young people make safer, more informed choices, and ultimately, steering them away from violent crime.

Police and Crime Commissioner, Susan Dungworth said: "It isn't just about knowing the facts, it's about taking action. Every young person we reach, every conversation we have, and every barrier we break down, contributes to a future where violence does not define our communities."

Read more about the programme [here](#).



SPOTTING SIGNS OF VULNERABILITY

Almost **600** night-time economy staff have been trained to spot signs of vulnerability and exploitation, helping to improve safety in local areas.

Our training gives bar staff, security teams, hotel workers, and venue managers the skills and confidence to:

- Recognise signs of intoxication, distress or exploitation.
- Spot the warning signs linked to County Lines and Modern Day Slavery.
- Safely intervene and support vulnerable people.

Read more [here](#), or [email us](#) to sign up.



TRAINEE DETECTIVES: ONE YEAR ON

One year after it's the launch, the Trainee Detective Programme, developed in partnership with Northumbria Police, continues to educate young people on the impact of knife crime.

Over 80 students have stepped into the role of detectives, using immersive technology to investigate the tragic murder of Connor Brown, gaining first-hand insight into the realities of violent crime.

Now, early participants have returned to the programme as Ambassadors, using their experience support others.

Read more about the programme [here](#).

EMPLOYABILTY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

In partnership with Northumberland Tyne and Wear District DWP, our Employability Support Programme is helping individuals access welfare benefits, specialist services, and routes into education, training, or employment.

With support from a dedicated coordinator, participants are building financial resilience, progressing into employment, and reducing their risk of involvement in crime.

To make a referral, please complete the [referral form](#).



PROJECT SHIELD: MAKING AN IMPACT

We are proud to work alongside partners on Project Shield, a targeted approach to tackling serious violence and anti-social behaviour.

In just 12 months, there have been some fantastic results:

- **12.5%** reduction in serious violence
- **19.9%** drop in ASB
- **31,244** hours of proactive patrols
- **227** arrests
- **288** stop and searches
- **77,029** positive community interactions

This month, we joined partners to reflect on these achievements, and look ahead to another year of building safer streets and stronger communities locally.



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