



Hello from your PCC

Through the Violence Reduction Unit and our partners, we are continuing to strengthen our response to serious violence.

You've told us this matters most, which is why tackling serious and organised crime remains a key priority in my police and crime plan.

We're already seeing real progress, with reductions in serious violence and anti-social behaviour. But we know there's still more to do.

That's why we are committed to prevention, early intervention, and working closely with communities to understand their priorities, and act on them.

This summer, through the Safer Streets Summer Initiative, we're increasing engagement alongside a visible policing presence, helping drive down crime and build safer, stronger communities for everyone.

Susan Dungworth
Northumbria Police & Crime Commissioner

IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS...

4% ↓ reduction in serious violence across Northumbria.

9% ↓ reduction in knife enabled serious violence across Northumbria.

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

OPERATION SCEPTRE RESULTS

- 163 arrests
- 34 knives seized
- 500+ weapons surrendered
- 1,000+ pupils engaged in knife crime awareness sessions

Thanks to Northumbria Police, dangerous weapons have been removed from our streets, arrests made, and violence disrupted before it could escalate.

But just as important is the work to prevent knife crime.

Through our education team and partners, we're working with young people, making sure they're listened to, supported, and empowered to make safer, more informed choices.

This is part of our year-round work to tackle serious violence, with increased activity during initiatives like Operation Sceptre.



SPOTLIGHT: MEET CHARLOTTE, OUR FOCUSED DETERRENCE WORKER

We recently caught up with Charlotte and Jade from Newcastle's Youth Justice Service.

Charlotte, our Focused Deterrence Worker, engages with young people who regularly spend time in the city centre and are beginning to come to the attention of local services.

Rather than waiting for things to escalate, she takes the time to connect, listen, and offer vital and consistent support, as part of our Focused Deterrence response.

Her work is about helping young people reflect, change their behaviour, and stay out of the criminal justice system. Because enforcement isn't always the answer.

And it's working. This year, Charlotte has helped:

- Young people re-engage with education, set goals, and make positive changes.
- One young person is co-producing awareness resources for parents.
- And, only one young person has required enforcement action – a clear sign of the impact this work is having.

Charlotte sits within the Newcastle City Safe Hub — a space that brings together a range of partners from across the city, investing in early intervention and diversion.

As PCC Susan Dungworth said: "This is how we build safer streets and stronger communities, by working together to reach young people early, and offering real support and positive alternatives to crime."





CARA... EARLY RESULTS SHOW IMPACT

CARA is an awareness raising early intervention for domestic abuse offenders, requiring them to attend two workshops to reflect on what led to their arrest, in order to prevent reoffending.

Funded by our Violence Reduction Unit, and delivered by Talk, Listen, Change, in partnership with Northumbria Police, the programme has had **244** referrals between August 2024 and March 2025.

Early feedback shows all participants completing the programme have reported an increased understanding of domestic abuse, 92% recognised the impact of their behaviour, and 94% identified tools they will use in their personal relationships.

One participant said: *"I am going to talk and listen more. I have learnt about healthy communication."*

OVER 250,000 STUDENTS RECEIVE POL-ED AWARENESS

Reaching young people as early as possible with knowledge, skills and confidence to make informed, positive choices in their everyday life is so important.

And Pol-Ed is one of the tools we are offering to schools, with over 250,000 students having already received awareness sessions.

Pol-Ed is an educational programme covering a wide range of topics including consent, healthy relationships, online safety, exploitation, and the consequences of criminal behaviour.

Thanks to the 500 schools (and their teachers and students) from across the force area who have adopted the programme so far.

Interested for next term?

Email: School.liason@northumbria.police.uk



LEARNING, REFLECTING, & TAKING ACTION

That's exactly what students at Boldon School have done after taking part in the Trainee Detective Programme, a week-long immersive experience exploring the impact and consequences of knife crime.

In a recent assembly, students reflected on what they did during the week, shared their learning on the impact of knife crime, and even wrote and delivered a powerful poem expressing their thoughts.

Now, they're taking action by raising funds to purchase a bleed kit - a vital resource that could help save a life.

Well done to all the young people involved.

MAKING AN IMPACT

We recently joined Northumbria Police for a day of impact in Ashington, delivering our vulnerability awareness training to over 60 staff from policing, local authorities, bars and charities.

The training helps staff recognise signs of vulnerability and gives them the confidence to step in safely, signpost support, and play their part in safeguarding those at risk.

Interested in taking part?

Reserve your place on our next awareness session [here](#).



LOCAL YOUTH FUND: GIVING YOUNG PEOPLE A VOICE

Knives Down, Boots On... Two years on and this young person led project is still going strong.

What started as an idea by a group of students at Trinity Academy in Newcastle, and backed by our Local Youth Fund, has grown into something powerful.

Over 100 young people recently came together for the Knives Down football tournament, but this has never just been about football.

It's about listening to young people, empowering them to lead their own projects, and taking part in something positive, all while pledging to never carry a knife.

Stay tuned for more about our Local Youth Fund coming soon!



CONTACT US

Email: vru@northumbria-pcc.gov.uk

Website: www.northumbria-pcc.gov.uk