

Office of The Police and Crime Commissioner

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2021



Welcome from Police and Crime Commissioner, Festus Akinbusoye

Hello everyone and welcome to the newsletter. It was only a month ago I spoke to you and so much has happened in that time that I'm pleased to be able to update you on.

I have been spending lots of time out in the community visiting partners all as well as residents and Bedfordshire Police officers, staff and volunteers as part of my weekly engagement schedule.

Being welcomed to The Police and Crime Panel

I met with the Panel last month and I shared my ideas for the Police and Crime Plan, launching in August 2021. This is key for myself and my team as it sets out our strategic objectives for Bedfordshire for the next three years which emphasises my pledges. I would really be grateful if you could give input towards the plan via the official public consultation survey which will be available from July 5th.

Read more about my plan ideas [here](#)

Community Policing

As part of one of my pledges to support the community in having trust and confidence in Bedfordshire Police, I'm working together with the Community Policing teams and Local Authorities to jointly discuss priorities for north, central and south Bedfordshire. We have, for each of these events, invited local residents to represent the voice of the public and feedback on local issues.

See all of the upcoming Community priority setting events and Action Days [here](#)



Prevention and early intervention

Addressing the root causes of crime and empowering local people with prevention measures to help make local communities safer is vital. I fully back and support early intervention work and together with Luton Council Leader Hazel Simmons, have been working very closely with the Violence and Exploitation Reduction Unit (VERU) and other youth offending services that we commission including YouTurn Futures and the Bedfordshire Against



Violence and Exploitation campaign. The Government has also made several recent funding announcements to support prevention initiatives in Bedfordshire including [Safer Streets funding](#)

The Counselling Foundation

After listening to feedback from colleagues, I have secured The Counselling Foundation to support Police Officers and Staff. Police Officers and Staff are fantastic at supporting the community and putting others first. I want to support that commitment by ensuring they have the appropriate and confidential support available to them when they need it.



As always, if you have any feedback or suggestions you can email the office here PCC@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Follow my team's social media accounts here to keep up-to-date with everything including our upcoming events.

Facebook - @BedsOPCC
Instagram - @BedsOPCC
Twitter - @bedsopcc

Stay Safe
Festus Akinbusoye



Chief Executive's Celebration

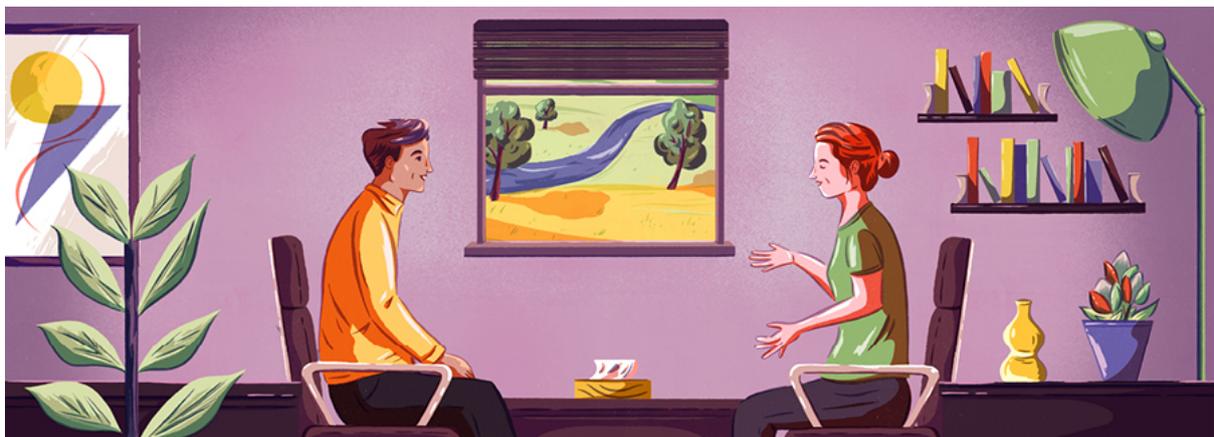
By Clare Kelly, Chief Executive of the OPCC



Antonina Belcheva with PCC Akinbusoye

Looking back at June, there were so many examples of team spirit and community focus but two individuals have really stood out for me. Antonina Belcheva from my office has again won a bid and brought in hundreds of thousands of pounds, and has managed to keep up with the demand of the opportunities over June of new bids from the Home Office so Bedfordshire has more chance of receiving more funding.

For a partner this month I will be congratulating Tracy McPhillips who really stepped up to the challenge of supporting us so quickly, effectively and professionally with an ask to bring in support for our officers and staff. Her work at the Counselling Foundation is spoken of so highly by colleagues and partners and this month we congratulate her for all her efforts and kindness.



Upcoming events

PCC problem solving meeting for the Queens Park Area and surrounding neighbours

[PCC problem solving meeting for the Queens Park Area and its neighbours](#)

The community policing team would like to take this opportunity to invite you all to the PCC problem solving meeting for the Queens Park Area and its neighbours.



LUTON NORTH COMMUNITY EVENT

Luton Borough Council

Bedfordshire Police & Crime Commissioner

THE OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

THE VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION REDUCTION UNIT

The local community is invited to a discussion with the PCC and the Local Authority about serious violence and how we, together as a community, could work to prevent it.

6PM - 8PM
12TH JULY 2021
(this event is ticketed)

MARSH FARM FUTURES
FUTURES HOUSE, THE MOAKES, LUTON,
BEDFORDSHIRE, LU3 3QB

for more information:
PCC@BEDFORDSHIRE.PNN.POLICE.UK

for ticket information: @BEDSOPCC

[Luton North Community Event; Discussion with the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Local Authority on Serious Violence – 12th JULY 2021](#)

The local community of Luton North are invited to a discussion with the Police and Crime Commissioner Festus Akinbusoye and the Local Authority, including leader of the Council Cllr Hazel Simmons about serious violence that is occurring between young people and how we together as a community could work to prevent it.



LUTON YOUNG PERSON COMMUNITY EVENT
FOR AGES 14 TO 25 YEARS OLD

Luton Borough Council

Bedfordshire Police & Crime Commissioner

THE OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

THE VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION REDUCTION UNIT

The local community is invited to a discussion with the PCC and the Local Authority about serious violence and how we, together as a community, could work to prevent it.

11:30AM - 12:30NOON
13TH JULY 2021
(this event is ticketed)

THIS IS AN ONLINE EVENT.

for more information:
PCC@BEDFORDSHIRE.PNN.POLICE.UK

for ticket information: @BEDSOPCC

[Luton Young Person Community Event; Discussion with the PCC and the Local Authority on Serious Violence for Ages 14 to 25 years old – 13th JULY 2021](#)

The local community is invited to a discussion with the Police and Crime Commissioner Festus Akinbusoye and the Local Authority, including leader of the Council Cllr Hazel Simmons about serious violence that is occurring between young people and how we together as a community could work to prevent it.



LUTON SOUTH COMMUNITY EVENT

Luton Borough Council

Bedfordshire Police & Crime Commissioner

THE OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

THE VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION REDUCTION UNIT

The local community is invited to a discussion with the PCC and the Local Authority about serious violence and how we, together as a community, could work to prevent it.

6PM - 8PM
14TH JULY 2021
(this event is ticketed)

THE RIVERSIDE SUITE -
VENUE 360
20 GIPSY LANE, LUTON, LU1 3JH

for more information:
PCC@BEDFORDSHIRE.PNN.POLICE.UK

for ticket information: @BEDSOPCC

[Luton South Community Event; Discussion with the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Local Authority on Serious Violence – 14th JULY 2021](#)

The local community of Luton South are invited to a discussion with the Police and Crime Commissioner Festus Akinbusoye and the Local Authority, including leader of the Council Cllr Hazel Simmons about serious violence that is occurring between young people and how we together as a community could work to prevent it.

Press releases – June 2021



[The Code of Practice for Victims \(Victims' Code\) Individual right information – Right 5 of 12](#)

1st July 2021

Right #5 To be provided with information about compensation.



[PCC allocates £89,000 to make the roads of Bedfordshire safer](#)

29th June 2021

The Office of Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) has allocated £89,000 to making the roads of Bedfordshire safer with plans this year for a further £100,000 investment.



[The Code of Practice for Victims \(Victims' Code\) Individual rights information – Right 4 of 12](#)

24th June 2021

Right #4 To be referred to services that support victims and have services and support tailored to your needs



[PCC takes part in Dog Walk to promote Bedfordshire Police volunteering scheme and pet theft](#)

24th June 2021

The Commissioner said “I am proud to be keeping my campaign commitment on community-led policing. I was amazed by the enthusiasm of our Dog Watch volunteers, for community safety and supporting Bedfordshire Police with outcomes”.



[World Wellbeing Week feature on Signpost, Bedfordshire's victim support service](#)

21st June 2021

World Wellbeing Week gives the opportunity to promote an overall awareness for the wide-range aspects of wellbeing. It also gives recognition to professionals in this sector and we'd like to shine a light on Signpost, our very own support service for Victims of Crime in Bedfordshire.



[The Code of Practice for Victims \(Victims' Code\) Individual rights information – Right 3 of 12](#)

17th June 2021

Right #3 To be provided with information when reporting a crime.



[PCC and Community Policing team work together for priority setting meeting in Central Bedfordshire](#)

16th June 2021

This meeting will allow the PCC and Community Policing team to understand first-hand from the public, issues they are facing in their community. Together, they will then set the priorities and make plans to tackle these as part of the Community Days of Action.



[PCC welcomed to the Police and Crime Panel to present his first ideas for the Police and Crime Plan](#)

11th June 2021

The Commissioner was welcomed to the Panel before sharing his early ideas of the Police and Crime Plan, launching in August 2021.



[PCC meets Special Constables and volunteers in support of National Volunteers Week](#)

10th June 2021

The PCC said “The OPCC and Bedfordshire Police could not operate in the way we do without the support of our many volunteers. They give the most precious gift anyone can; their time and for that we are truly grateful to each and every individual”.



[PCC pledges to renew efforts to tackle serious youth violence in Bedfordshire](#)

9th June 2021

Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner has vowed to do more to tackle serious youth violence after the death of a 16-year-old boy in Luton.



[Home Office backs Bedfordshire bid for Safer Streets Funding](#)

8th June 2021

Police and Crime Commissioner, Festus Akinbusoye has won £432,000 from the Safer Streets fund from the Home Office. The winning bid is for the Dunstable and Houghton Regis area of Bedfordshire, known as Manshead.



[The Code of Practice for Victims \(Victims' Code\) Individual rights information](#)

8th June 2021

Right 2: To have the details of the crime recorded without unjustified delay.



[New funding to fight domestic violence will 'save lives' says new Beds Police Commissioner](#)

1st June 2021

The Commissioner said "I have pledged my focus and attention on tackling domestic abuse. This funding which has been achieved through a determined partnership by our specialist units will deliver vital resources and backing."



Social Media – June 2021

Festus Akinbusoye PCC is at Bedfordshire.
Published by IG · 1 June at 15:16 · Bedford ·

Today, I visited our Safer Streets Hub in #Bedford which is a @ukhomeoffice funded project. I saw @faces_bedford delivering food to families in need, and spoke about their PCC funded work to tackle exploitation in #Bedfordshire.

FACES operate within a rang... See more



Festus Akinbusoye PCC is in Leighton Buzzard.
Published by Festus Akinbusoye · 7 June at 12:30 · Instagram ·

Fantastic Ride Along with two FANTASTIC Bedfordshire Police Special Constables this morning. One with 32yrs as a Special and another - a month.

Did some beat patrol in Leighton Buzzard talking with residents and local businesses. Report of a prolific shopl... See more

Festus Akinbusoye PCC
Published by Festus Akinbusoye · 15 June at 11:50 ·

Thanks to Cllr. Hazel Simmons, Leader of Luton Borough Council for a positive conversation this morning. We are absolutely united in our commitment to jointly tackle violent crime & serious youth violence - which are preventable, not inevitable.

If you are... See more



BAVEX.CO.UK
(no title)
Bedfordshire Against Violence and Exploitation is the countywide campaign to raise awareness and reporting on all forms of exploitation, especially...

Festus Akinbusoye PCC
Published by Leanne Friel · 9 June at 13:43 ·

SPOTLIGHT ON ACCM UK (Agency for Culture and Change Management)

This morning I have been out and about visiting partners and first up was ACCM. I'd like to put the spotlight on them to educate you about what they do... See more



Published by Opcc Bedfordshire · 7 June at 10:24 ·

To celebrate the work of our volunteers, I met with some of them online this morning, we had a very productive meeting!

I met Independent Custody Volunteers (ICV), Signpost, Speed Watch, Dog Welfare Scheme and Street Watch... See more

