

**Bedfordshire
Police & Crime
Commissioner**

Making the money work

Hello everyone,

January is always a tough month but particularly so for front line workers and Bedfordshire Police. I hope you are aware of how much more our officers have had to do to keep us all safe in relation to Covid enforcement in the face of some unacceptable resistance, such as at two funerals where despite all their engagement and warnings beforehand, individuals still went out of their way to defy the law - and picked up £10,000 penalties for their efforts.

As you may know, some criminals have seized the opportunity to take advantage of the pandemic and the NHS vaccine programme. My office has been working with the force, Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes Clinical Commissioning Groups, Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service, Central Bedfordshire Council, Luton Borough Council and Bedford Borough Council to produce a joint fraud alert info-graphic, to be sent to as many older and vulnerable residents in the county as possible. Please could you share this graphic with anyone you come across who you think might benefit from the information?

To view and download the flyer you can find it

at: <https://www.bedfordshire.pcc.police.uk/2021-01-frontline-services-issue-warning-over-vaccine-registration-scam-which-could-cost-life-savings>

This month I awarded £93,323 to five organisations running seven different projects for victims of Sexual Assault, ranging from online facilities to connect with a specialist advisor and expert trauma counselling to accommodation advice and group coaching programmes to make sure they could still offer vital services to victims irrespective of the current lockdown.

Where victim care is concerned we are putting this at the centre of what we do and the victim support service I introduced to help Bedfordshire Police in relation to support for those affected by crime - Signpost - continues to go from strength to strength.

Over the course of 2020, Signpost supported some 4,338 victims, working closely with partner organisations and charities to ensure the right care and route to help was given. Please think of this service and pass on details when encountering victims of crime who need extra assistance, irrespective of the crime type. The Victim Care Co-ordinators will support individuals even if that person does not wish to continue with the justice process or if the Crown Prosecution Service will not take it forward to prosecution - so you will still have made a huge difference to that victim.

Signpost's specialist Victim Care Coordinators can be contacted on the freephone, confidential helpline number 0800 0282 887 or victims can self refer by consulting our online directory of quality services at signpostforbedfordshire.com

Finally, I am so delighted that Chief Inspector Hob Hoque was awarded an MBE in the New Years Honours List for services to Community Cohesion and beyond. Hob represents what is best about Bedfordshire Police: as an outstanding officer who lives and breathes this force

and makes such a huge difference to the relationships we have with communities countywide.

Yours,

Kathryn



Kathryn Holloway
Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire



News from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner



[PCC thanks residents for taking part in her annual survey – 05/01/21](#)

Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, Kathryn Holloway, has thanked residents who responded to her fourth annual survey, which asked the people of Bedfordshire to have their say on policing and crime in their area.

The responses from the survey, which was launched in October, showed that 65% of people supported the Commissioner's pledge to return to more visible policing. Burglary and anti-social behaviour were issues residents felt most concerned by within their communities, with drug dealing and county lines also frequently mentioned.



[PCC wins extra funding to support the Midland Road Safer Street Project improving CCTV service across Bedford– 06/01/21](#)

Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, Kathryn Holloway, has won a further £30,000 supporting the Safer Streets Project after a successful bidding process which will upgrade the CCTV system for residents across Bedford Borough.

The OPCC, with the support of the Bedford Community Safety Partnership, was successful in its bid for additional funding from the Home Office.



[PCC funded YouTube channel supporting young people during lockdown watched hundreds more times and offering something to do every day– 08/01/21](#)

A YouTube channel, set up last year during the first national lockdown (May 2020) to help support Bedfordshire's young people through the Covid-19 pandemic with entertainment activities each day, has continued to be watched over 500 times and is now being re-launched to make more aware of what's on offer.



[Ask for ANI - Force and PCC back new domestic abuse codeword scheme to help victims seek support– 14/01/21](#)

Bedfordshire Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner, Kathryn Holloway, are supporting a new domestic abuse codeword scheme which launches today (Thursday) to help victims access emergency support in the community via local pharmacies.

[Frontline services issue warning over vaccine registration scam which could cost life savings - 15/01/21](#)

Bedfordshire's frontline services are working together to issue a warning to residents across the county as criminals seize the current opportunity of the pandemic to use the vaccination programme being rolled out across the country to create new scams which could cheat people out of their life savings and put people in danger.

Nationwide, police forces have been made aware of a growing number of scams which initially arrive as a text message claiming to be from the NHS offering the Covid-19 vaccine. The link that accompanies the fake text message takes the reader to a hoax NHS website which requests personal and financial details.

[PCC commissions extra support services worth more than 90,000 pounds for victims of Sexual Assault - 19/01/21](#)

Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, Kathryn Holloway, has allocated over £93,000 to organisations to provide further support for victims of serious Sexual Assaults.

The Commissioner awarded £93,323 to five organisations running seven different projects ranging from online facilities to connect with a specialist advisor offering support and expert trauma counselling to accommodation advice and group coaching programmes.

[PCC's victim service supports over 4,000 victims during 2020 - 22/01/21](#)

Signpost, the service introduced by Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, Kathryn Holloway, to support victims and those affected by crime, helped over 4,000 across the county last year.

Over the course of 2020, Signpost adapted to changes in crimes such as Domestic Abuse when it was more difficult for victims to seek help and leave their homes during lockdown and the specialist team of Victim Care Coordinators supported some 4,338 victims, working closely with partner organisations and charities to ensure the right care and route to help was given.

[PCC thanks councillors for their support and sharing views on policing with Parish conference called off due to Covid-19- 29/01/21](#)

Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, Kathryn Holloway, has expressed her gratitude to town and parish councillors across the county for sharing their local knowledge and experiences on crime and policing in their area after her annual meeting with them had to be called off due to the pandemic.

Under normal circumstances, the PCC holds an annual Town and Parish Council Conference for councillors to share their concerns and views with the Commissioner and Bedfordshire Police's Chief Constable, Garry Forsyth, together with members of the Community and Rural Crime teams. As a result of the restrictions in place to tackle the pandemic, a survey was sent out to all councillors instead to ensure their voices could continue to be heard.

Social Media

Bedfordshire PCC @BedsPCC

Bedfordshire's frontline services are working together to issue a warning to residents as criminals use the vaccination programme to create new scams which could cheat people out of their life savings and put people in danger - bedfordshire.pcc.police.uk/2021-01-frontl... @bedspolice @BLMK_CCGs

FRAUD ALERT

From the Police, NHS and your local services: **Coronavirus Vaccination Scams**

In the UK, coronavirus vaccines will only be available via the National Health Service (NHS). You can be contacted by the NHS, your employer, a GP surgery or pharmacy local to you, to receive your vaccine. Remember, the vaccine is **free of charge**. At no point will you be asked to pay.

- The NHS will **never** ask you for your bank account or card details.
- The NHS will **never** ask you for your PIN or banking password.
- The NHS will **never** arrive unannounced at your home to administer the vaccine.
- The NHS will **never** ask you to prove your identity by sending copies of personal documents such as your passport, driving licence, bills or pay slips.

If you receive a call you believe to be fraudulent, hang up. If you are suspicious about an email you have received, forward it to report@phishing.gov.uk. Suspicious text messages should be forwarded to the number 7726 which is **free of charge**.

If you believe you are the victim of a fraud, please report this to Action Fraud as soon as possible by calling 0300 123 2040 or visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk.

Kathryn Holloway @KHollowayPCC

Huge congratulations to @ERSOU the regional crime unit Bedfordshire Police leads for taking down 2 industrial scale drug marketplaces online after intercepting a package in April 2020. Servers seized and sites removed. Investigators hot on trail of all involved.

12:01 PM · Jan 20, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

4 Likes

Bedfordshire PCC @BedsPCC

Signpost, the service introduced by Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, Kathryn Holloway, to support victims and those affected by crime, helped over 4,000 across the county last year. bedfordshire.pcc.police.uk/2021-01-pccs-v... @signpostbedford

Signpost

supporting you every step of the way

7:00 PM · Jan 22, 2021 · Hootsuite Inc.

Kathryn Holloway @KHollowayPCC

What absolutely fantastic news and so incredibly well deserved Hob!!!

Emma Carter @bedspolfedsec · Dec 31, 2020

Delighted to announce Federation Rep Chief Inspector Hob Hoque has been awarded an MBE in the NY Honours List for services to Community Cohesion. A Rep for 10 years as well as working tirelessly to build better community relations. Huge Congratulations! 🎉 @PFEW_HQ

Kathryn Holloway Retweeted

NHS Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes CCGs @BL... · Jan 6

"It's lovely to have it done because it's the way forward"

Paul Wheatley, 83 from the Great Barford area of Bedford was the first person to be vaccinated at Kings House in Bedford Borough today.

4 22 66

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BedsALERT
KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Sign up to our community messaging system and receive messages that matter to you.

**Police and
Crime Plan**