

on the RECORD



*making the
money work*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Hello again,

I am delighted to be able to bring you up to date more fully, now that the General Election and restrictions of Purdah are over.

On 15 June I launched my end of year report, including the results of Project Boost the Frontline; I had invited an independent expert in policing, Simon Bullock, to look at all the ways in which Bedfordshire Police could make best use of the officers already employed by the Force and also, ways to support those injured back to full duty on the frontline.

Bedfordshire Police is too small a Force to lose a single officer and since I came into the role of PCC, there have been 700 fewer days of sickness absence – a fall of 3.2%, worth a sum of £100,000 in cash terms.

I take my duty of care to our officers extremely seriously; this is why the Force and I have introduced two Targeted Health Care Pilots to pay for earlier access to physiotherapy, diagnostics like MRI scans or consultations with specialists where officers would otherwise face significant delay in getting treatment and where acute injuries could become chronic ones, further delaying a return to the frontline.

I also announced an arrangement, brokered by my office, with the University of Bedfordshire's Sports Science Department in Bedford to help treat those officers on light and restricted duties in their state of the art facilities to help them make a full recovery and return to full duties.

Yours,

Kathryn

Kathryn Holloway
Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire

News from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

PCC publishes First Year Report

Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner Kathryn Holloway has published her First Year Report outlining her achievements since being elected to office.

The report focuses on the priorities set by Commissioner Holloway in her Police and Crime Plan.

"I have tried my hardest to be that rarest of all things – a politician who actually keeps their word. At the end of my first year I am proud to announce that 97 pledges in my Police and Crime Plan are being delivered or progressed by the Force," said Commissioner Holloway.

"Those achievements of which I am most proud are the creation of seven Community Policing Hubs, which will be staffed by officers drawn from 96 new recruits in the last financial year and at least 100 more this year, together with the decision to fund a video link for victims of rape and child sexual abuse to avoid court appearance and one of the most extensive collaborative arrangements with the Fire Service in the country; including sharing fire stations where police stations have closed such as Ampthill and, imminently, in Leighton Buzzard," said the Commissioner.



For more information and to see the report in full – [First Year Report](#)

PCC ends first year with paid healthcare scheme to help officers back to Frontline

Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner Kathryn Holloway ended her first year in the role by announcing the Force will pay for healthcare to get officers back to full duties.



The Force has set aside £50,000, as part of her Police and Crime Plan, to pay for two targeted healthcare pilots to help officers who have been injured or who are recovering from illness.

If an officer has to wait for more than 12 weeks for a diagnosis through a consultation or a test, such as an MRI scan, they may qualify for them to be paid for by Bedfordshire Police and the scheme is also

available for minor surgery, if success is virtually guaranteed.

Officers having to wait for more than 4 weeks for physiotherapy can also apply for paid treatment.

"I know very well, having had serious back injuries myself, that an acute injury can become a chronic one if left untreated and am determined this should not happen to our officers, causing them greater pain and distress as well as delaying a return to full duties," said Commissioner Holloway.

"Ours is truly a thin blue line and I have to do everything I can to offer support to officers to get them back to full health as soon as possible," she said.

The Commissioner introduced the first officer to have benefited from the Targeted Healthcare scheme, PC Carl Klein, who is back to work after his hernia repair operation was funded by the Force.

PC Klein said: "Being off on restricted duty is quite stressful. Without the injury, you've got the mental issues of being off and away from work and colleagues. Getting back to work was my primary goal.



"I do feel more supported with the Boost the Frontline project. It will help fellow officers get the support and treatment they need sooner to return to full duty, serving the people of Bedfordshire." Read more [here](#).

PCC praises police for forward-thinking plan to increase Firearms Officers

Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner Kathryn Holloway has praised the Force for an imaginative plan to provide increased firearms protection for the county by training up Roads Policing teams as a back-up.



Training started last autumn to increase the number of Firearms officers available across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire by 50 percent to boost the Firearms Policing Unit, which delivers the service as a tri-force. Read more [here](#).

PCC offers prospect of Leagrave Station to Luton youth groups

"Come up with a plan and the money to run it and it's yours!" - that's the offer from Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner Kathryn Holloway over Leagrave Police Station, raising the prospect of a youth development and social centre at the site.

Leagrave Police Station, on the High Street, was set to be offered for rental, as police in the town are now based at Luton Police Station, Bury Park and Futures House.



However, following positive reactions from youth leaders and the Leagrave community, the Commissioner has said she will happily turn

it over to work on behalf of young people in the town if funding and a sustainable plan can be put together.

Commissioner Holloway said: "Sadly I don't have the funds from the Ministry of Justice to run Leagrave Station as a youth centre myself. But my whole message has been that police can't deliver every service on their own.

"There are multiple sources of funds in Luton, for example from the airport, Luton Borough Council and voluntary groups. I hold regular meetings of those holding the commissioning funds in the county and this is precisely the sort of joint-funding opportunity which I welcome.

"If we can, collectively, cover the costs of running the building and offer a safe space for young people to go, with meaningful activities taking place to divert them from youth violence and other harmful issues that young people are affected by, then I would wholeheartedly support it." Read more [here](#).

PCC appeals for riders to join Police Horse Watch to cut country crime

Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner Kathryn Holloway is calling on the county's horse owners to sign up to a new scheme to help police the countryside.

The new project - Horse Watch - will provide riders with training and distinctive branded clothing, provided by The British Horse Society, and organise equestrian patrols of areas which police find difficult to access, based on current crime reports for their local areas.



"Horse Watch is a fantastic idea to join forces with communities in the countryside to work with Bedfordshire Police," said Commissioner Holloway.

"Horse riders are in a unique position to be able to go off-road to locations that police vehicles can't get to and alert the Force to fly-tipping, off-road biking and anti-social behaviour.

"Because riders can get to out of the way locations of the type fly-tippers use and where motorcycles and quad bikes cause irreparable damage to crops, members of Horse Watch will be our eyes and ears on the bridal pathways of Bedfordshire," she said. Read more [here](#).

Working together with Bedfordshire Police

Force Control Room sees unprecedented demand in 999 and 101 calls

Since March this year, the Force Control Room has had to deal with an increase in demand in calls to 999 and 101.

Call 999 if:

Life is at risk

A serious crime
is in progress



The Force is proactively looking at ways we can reduce the demand on our call handlers and raise awareness regarding when it is and isn't appropriate to call 999.

"A force the size of Bedfordshire Police simply cannot respond to the level of calls which are the equivalent of a New Years' Eve every night of the year," said Commissioner Holloway.

"Yet this level of demand has been being faced by our call handlers on a regular basis throughout the last month.

"I need to ask everyone considering a call to Bedfordshire Police to consider whether they should be ringing the 101 number for all non-life threatening emergencies, the 999 service or indeed whether it is the police or another agency who are the most appropriate to respond to that particular incident," said the Commissioner.

OPCC social media highlights

Dates for the diary

Twitter



View more highlights on our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) pages.

Police Bravery Awards -
Thursday 13 July

**Bedfordshire Police
Family Fun Day -**
Saturday 2 September

Useful information

[Police and Crime Plan](#)

Keep in touch



[Like us on
Facebook](#)



[Follow us on
Twitter](#)

BedsALERT
KEEPING YOU INFORMED

[Sign up](#) to our community messaging system and receive messages that matter to you.