

Safer in Kent

News from Matthew Scott: Kent's Police and Crime Commissioner

PCC HOSTS ANOTHER BLUELIGHT JOBS FAIR

- Matthew Scott hosted event to showcase careers across Kent's emergency services
- Huge levels of interest in joining Kent Police and its many partner agencies
- Free event took place at the Orchards Academy in Swanley on 14 November
- More careers info at www.kent.police.uk/jobs

Matthew Scott, the elected Police and Crime Commissioner for Kent, has hosted his second successful Blue Light Jobs Fair.

The free event was hosted at the Orchards Academy, Swanley, on 14 November. It enabled interested members of the public to learn more about the various career roles on offer at Kent Police, and how to apply.

Kent Police held recruitment workshops, with attendees expressing their delight at being able to speak directly to serving officers and staff, as well as representatives of the other organisations present.

Mr Scott said: 'These events really are unique in that they

promote not only the opportunities available within the emergency services but in some of our criminal justice partners and local volunteer organisations too. It was great to see so many people there, and to have the Chief Constable drop in and show his support too.'

Earlier this year Mr Scott raised money through council tax to fund an additional 180 officers in 2019/20.

He added: 'The Kent Police recruitment team is well on track to meet that target. With funding to increase officer numbers by another 147 next year, I am delighted to announce we will look to organise another Blue Light Jobs Fair in East Kent in the spring.'



Matthew Scott at the event on 14 November

COULD YOU HELP SCRUNITISE THE OPCC AND KENT POLICE?

The PCC's office facilitates a number of panels which independently scrutinise its work, and the work of Kent Police, including the **Joint Audit Committee**. It also has a role to play in **Police Gross Misconduct Hearings**.

We are currently looking for people to act as independent members on both of these bodies. Successful applicants will receive full training and be required to attend a few meetings or hearings a year for four years. Attendees receive payment of **£212 per day**.

For more information on both opportunities, and to apply, please visit www.kent-pcc.gov.uk/vacancies

What does the PCC do?

- Sets Kent Police's priorities
- Holds the Chief Constable to account
- Decides the budget and council tax
- Commissions services for victims
- Runs a custody visiting scheme
- Works with councils and others to prevent crime



Supporting victims

A report has been published which suggests how victims with mental health problems can be better supported through the criminal justice system.

Matthew Scott commissioned Victim Support to undertake the research, with the results made public on World Mental Health Day.

He said: 'I urge everyone working across the criminal justice system in Kent and Medway to reflect on this report and act. I will be holding agencies to account to see that they do through my role as chair of the Kent Criminal Justice Board.'

Cyber-Bullying Survey

Keen to understand the ways in which young people experience cyber-bullying, Matthew Scott circulated a new anonymous survey to schools across Kent and Medway during Anti-Bullying Week.

He said: 'I have also developed a separate survey aimed at teachers, parents and elected officials. It seeks to understand their experiences of online abuse as well as the extent to which they monitor and understand what young people are doing online.' Both surveys can be completed at www.kent-pcc.gov.uk/bullying



New town centre PCs

The policing of Kent's town centres is to be given a boost following the announcement that there will be 56 dedicated police officers across the county. A total of 38 new constables will be recruited, using money the PCC raised through council tax earlier this year, to join 18 other police officers who are already in post.

Matthew Scott said: 'I am delighted the Chief Constable is deploying these extra officers to communities right across Kent. As a result 26 towns, from Maidstone to Margate and from Dartford to Deal, now boast their own town centre PCs.'

Investing in prevention

While it is important for Kent Police to tackle crime and pursue criminals, Matthew Scott continues to see that money is used effectively to help prevent crime too.

In October he visited a project he funds in Maidstone which uses football to teach young people teamwork skills and builds self-confidence. His office has also received more than £1.1million to create a multi-agency Violence Reduction Unit to coordinate partnership activity across Kent and Medway to tackle violence and deliver long-term reductions in violent crime.



How safe do you feel?

Matthew Scott's Annual Policing Survey, which launched in the summer, has received a record number of responses. However, there is still time to complete it and to let Mr Scott know your views on policing in Kent. The survey only takes a couple of minutes and is available online at www.kent-pcc.gov.uk/haveyoursay

One of the questions in the survey asks where residents would like additional resources to be focused, which is especially pertinent after it was announced recently that 147 more officers will be recruited to Kent Police in 2020.

I'm happy to help you or answer questions—please do get in touch with me using the details below

Post: Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Kent Police Headquarters, Sutton Road, Maidstone, ME15 9BZ

Phone: 01622 677055 | **Email:** contactyourpcc@kent.police.uk | **Website:** www.kent-pcc.gov.uk

Twitter: @PCCKent | **YouTube:** "Kent PCC's Office" | **Instagram:** @kent_opcc | **Facebook:** KentPCC