
*News from Katrina Goodhand
Engagement Officer for the Office of the Police
and Crime Commissioner*

Welcome to the first 2021 NEL Newsletter. Due to Covid restrictions my work has been very different over the past months. Instead of happily meeting up with the lovely people of NEL at their community groups face to face, I am having to get myself invited to Zoom & Teams meetings instead. I like to hear from you what is good or what is causing a problem in your community. I can explain the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and highlight that we are not the police and we cannot become involved in operational policing, but at a local level I sit on the Anti-social behaviour panel, the Community Trigger (ASB Review) panel, the hate crime panel, the domestic abuse one system panel, the police independent Advisory Group and the Community Safety Partnership as well as others, so there are ways for me to raise concerns about community issues at these panels, but not to address individual cases. The PCC also allocates funding to victims services and crime prevention projects directly and through the NEL Community Safety Partnership and I can explain that work too.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner has Vacancies for Scrutiny Volunteers. Join our team! Find out more here: <https://www.humberside-pcc.gov.uk/News/News-Archive/2021/Commissioner-seeks-volunteers-to-scrutinise-aspects-of-police-work.aspx>

Fraud Forum NEL share details of emerging issues of fraud with our community contacts. We use the word Fraud and NOT Scam because people tend not to report that they have been 'scammed' or say they have 'fallen for a scam' which seems to put the blame on the victim for not spotting it or allowing themselves to be duped. People who commit fraud are serious criminals who use manipulating methods to get money from you. It is never your fault that you become a victim, it is always the fault of the criminal and there is no shame in becoming a victim. If you were robbed in the street you would not think it is your fault and neither would it be if on-line fraudsters steal money from you. Covid has given lots of opportunity to serious criminals to commit fraud against people who may be vulnerable. During Covid lockdowns lots of our older community have started to use technology to stay connected to loved ones and friends. Some of our wonderfully supportive charities and groups have also been giving out laptops and tablets. The criminals are preying on people who may not be as internet or fraud savvy by making contact by emails, text messages and phone calls, demanding bank details, passwords or even to 'click a link to a page' which gives them access to the device. Their messages are often hidden in fake emails or texts from Government offering the Covid Vaccine for a fee or the need to register bank details for some or other Covid benefit or refund. Be on the lookout and If you want to report a fraud contact Action Fraud: <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

Important Dates:

Meet the Commissioner NEL Event on ZOOM open for all NEL residents

Date: Monday 1st March 2021

Time: 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Book a place:

Katrina.goodhand@humberside.pnn.police.uk

Meet the Commissioner NEL gave local residents, Parish and Council representatives an opportunity to ask the commissioner questions about his work and the work of his office. He spoke of his vision for Humberside Police and a thorough explanation of his role and my role within the office as his community representative for North East Lincolnshire. The next meeting is open to all NEL residents, so please book a place today.

Crime Reduction Fund 2020/21

The next round of crime reduction fund is open for bids. **Closing Date 26th February 2021**

As this is the final round of 2020/21 the available funding is small and whilst the maximum grant available is still £10,000 we are strongly encouraging bids from smaller projects up to approximately £3,000 in value.



News from our North East Lincolnshire Engagement Partners

The Engagement Officer Network which I chair had Covid overtaking the discussions and the roll out of the vaccines is keeping everyone busy. There was also a plea from some groups to say that they are still open for business as they have seen a reduction in people contacting them for support. This includes the Carers Support Service, Victim Support, Women's Aid and Blue Door.

Humberside Fire & Rescue Service asked if we can share the details of their services. As they too are still supporting the community <https://humbersidefire.gov.uk/your-safety/referral-and-contact-page>

Community Services Fact Sheet lists all the local food, shopping, befriending and advice services that are currently working to support communities in North East Lincolnshire. Anyone can use the information to get support or make a referral for someone that needs help. It has been compiled by **Sector Support North East Lincolnshire** and will be updated twice-weekly or when significant changes occur. Find the factsheet here: <https://www.sectorsupportnel.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/NEW-13.01.2021-Community-Signposting-Factsheet.pdf>

If you want to see your service get added to the sheet, please get in touch.

The NELC Community Spotlight is the page where local community groups can view and add to the What's on calendar: <https://www.nelincs.gov.uk/jobs-training-and-volunteering/volunteering-and-community-groups/community-spotlight/>

Alfie's Story - Not in Our Community.

We had great news just before Christmas when the film we commissioned in NEL to highlight the issue of County Lines and Child Criminal Exploitation received an international award. **Alfie's Story** not only won the category it was entered for, which was for the best Public Sector film, at the Drum Awards, but it also scooped the overall Grand Prix Award. The series of films was up against national and international marketing companies who work with huge budgets to produce their films. It is a testament to the local organisations and young people involved that the film is as authentic and emotive as it is

<https://www.thedrumcontentawards.com/the-drum-content-awards-2020/best-public-sector-or-government-contentmarketing-strategy/not-in-our-community-alfies-story>

Katrina Goodhand

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Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

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Consultations – Have your say

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner have a consultation on the cost of policing in your council tax. This is an opportunity for you to have your say:

Precept (council tax) <https://www.humberside-pcc.gov.uk/News/News-Archive/2020/Police-Funding-202122-Give-Your-Views.aspx>

North East Lincolnshire Council are undertaking a number of consultations, not least Our Place Our Future which OPCC contribute to and has a number of questions, but you can skip areas you are not interested in, the selective licencing consultation was extended and is still open to comments and the budget 2021 consultation. Take part here: <https://www.nelincs.gov.uk/your-council/consultations-and-surveys/have-your-say/>

Domestic Abuse campaign During the last two lockdowns the reports to Police of Domestic abuse sadly increased. At the OPCC we launched the 'Can't wait for this to be over' advertising campaign and a web page dedicated to raising awareness of the support that is available to victims of abuse w. #YouAreNotAlone at: <https://www.humberside-pcc.gov.uk/Help-and-Advice/Domestic-Abuse-You-Are-Not-Alone.aspx> If you are aware of anyone who is suffering at the hands of an abuser, mentally, physically, financially – please inform the Police or direct the victim to the website.

If it is safe to do so.

