

Office of The Police and Crime Commissioner

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2021



Welcome from Police and Crime Commissioner, Festus Akinbusoye

Welcome to the latest edition of my newsletter. Our Community Events are in full swing and I have been out and about meeting many of you. I would like to firstly thank you all for making me so welcome. There are still lots opportunities planned and I look forward to meeting more of you in the coming months.

Community Event meetings

As part of my focus around spending more time with the community and ‘putting people at the heart of policing’, I have hosted more Violence Reduction meetings at different locations across the county. These meetings are important in so many ways. It’s about bringing professionals together to connect the dots and get a holistic view of how officers, councillors, residents, schools, students and the local authority can not only educate me on their fantastic services, but also have a joined-up approach with each other. We have more of these planned. Book [here](#).

Engagement Wednesdays

I am continuing my tour of Bedfordshire each week and meeting as many of our funded partners as possible as part of my Engagement Wednesdays. For me, this face-to-face time is invaluable and you never cease to amaze me with your passion. It’s truly humbling and inspirational to see and I know you find it beneficial too.

I get so much from the Community Event meetings and Engagement Wednesdays. The information you share with me doesn’t get ignored. It helped me to shape the Police and Crime Plan. I take feedback away and speak with relevant teams. It also helps my team with future planning. Let’s keep these conversations going.

I am also committing to more channels of communication to ensure all of you are kept up to date, especially in our more rural areas.



Chief Executive's Celebration

By Clare Kelly, Chief Executive of the OPCC



In September, we opened our bids process for funding in 2022/23. To support organisations entering this process, Bethany Coles took on extra responsibilities to work with organisations and engage partners on this opportunity to work towards the funding. Bethany did this over and above her day job and so I would like to recognise and thank Bethany for her hard work.



Externally, we would like to thank Chief Inspector Mo Aziz for his work in Community Policing and engagements with the public and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.



Upcoming events



**DUNSTABLE
COMMUNITY
MEETING**

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.

Central Bedfordshire
CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

**THE OFFICE OF THE
POLICE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

6:00PM - 8:00PM
13TH OCTOBER 2021
(this event is ticketed)

THE GROVE THEATRE
UNIT 5 GROVE PARK, COURT DRIVE,
DUNSTABLE LU5 4GP

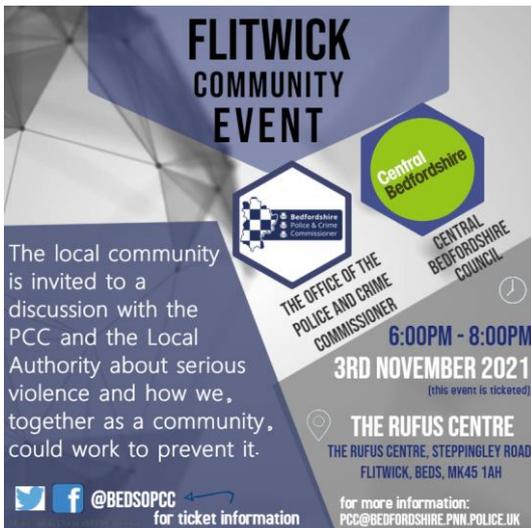
@BEDSOPCC
for ticket information

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

Dunstable Community Event

Wednesday 13th October

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.



**FLITWICK
COMMUNITY
EVENT**

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.

Central Bedfordshire
CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

**THE OFFICE OF THE
POLICE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

6:00PM - 8:00PM
3RD NOVEMBER 2021
(this event is ticketed)

THE RUFUS CENTRE
THE RUFUS CENTRE, STEPPINGLEY ROAD,
FLITWICK, BEDS, MK45 1AH

@BEDSOPCC
for ticket information

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

Flitwick Community Event

Wednesday 3rd November

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.



**BEDFORD YOUNG PERSON
COMMUNITY EVENT**
FOR AGES 14 TO 25 YEARS OLD

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.

Bedford Borough Council
BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

**THE OFFICE OF THE
POLICE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

10:30AM - 11:30AM
23RD NOVEMBER 2021
(this event is ticketed)

THIS IS AN ONLINE EVENT.

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

for ticket information
@BEDSOPCC

Bedford Young Person Community Event

Tuesday 23rd November

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

The event will be held virtually.

Press releases –September 2021

PCC announces the early opening of his Grant Fund of £1.6m to support local community

6th September 2021

Partners across Bedfordshire have been invited to bid into this annual opportunity which closes at midday on 15th October 2021.



Bedfordshire Youths take lead on positive information campaign

17th September 2021

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), working with Bedfordshire Youth Council (BYC) have been creating campaigns aimed at young people, hosted on social media platforms.



Chief Executive thanks partners for coming together for the benefit of the Bedfordshire community

17th September 2021

The purpose of the event was to give partners a chance to hear updates from each other and to connect over work they may wish to do together.



Beds PCC appointed National Prevention Lead

24th September 2021

The National Prevention Lead is responsible for ensuring that early intervention and prevention of crime is the primary strategy and focus for policing priorities across the country.



Beds PCC praised 'outstanding' students for their time in his office

30th September

The students were tasked with reviewing the Summer of Fun programme ran by the OPCC which directly links to the Police and Crime Commissioner's priority of 'tackling the causes of crime and breaking the cycle of re-offending'.



Police and Crime Commissioner Festus Akinbusoye, has announced a Schools Parliamentary Debating Competition in Bedfordshire

29th September

As part of his election campaign, the Commissioner pledged to run an annual debating competition for children aged 15-18.



Funding won by Beds PCC helps to reduce fear of crime in Manshead area

30th September 2021

The OPCC, along with Bedfordshire Police and Central Bedfordshire Council hosted their second Safer Streets event in Dunstable.



Social Media – September 2021

Festus Akinbusoye PCC
Published by Festus Akinbusoye · 1 September at 18:41 · 🌐

When the community and the police work together, a safer society is one of the outcomes.



Bedfordshire Police · 1 September at 13:05 · 🌐

We executed five warrants across Luton today (Wednesday) in the latest crackdown on county lines.

- ✖ One man arrested
- ✖ £3,500 in cash seized... See more

Festus Akinbusoye PCC
Published by Festus Akinbusoye · 2 September at 17:19 · 🌐

Community Policing is more than arresting people. It is also about helping to transform and build communities- one person at a time. Please check out this really cool story. This is part of what we do on a daily basis. 🙌



Festus Akinbusoye PCC is at Bedfordshire.
Published by Instagram · 9 September at 16:26 · Bedford · 🌐

On this #999Day I pay tribute to all frontline emergency workers and support staff who do a fantastic job in keeping our nation functioning. It was a pleasure to do a walkaround of Kempston HQ with Her Majesty The Queen's representative in Bedfordshire, Lord Lieutenant Helen Nellis to speak with officers and staff today. Thank you ma'am I am proud of @bedspoliceuk, our staff, officers and volunteers who make our area safer. Thank you all for your work and @bedspccc for or... See more



822 People reached 121 Engagements **Boost post**

Festus Akinbusoye PCC
Published by Festus Akinbusoye · 1 September at 23:45 · 🌐

Four firearms have now been recovered by Bedfordshire Police officers in just a few weeks, the most recent being the outcome of a Stop and Search. I will provide an update on the number of firearms and knives recovered in our county since I was elected as Police and Crime Commissioner in due course.

With the recent additional government funding to tackle serious organised crime gangs and investment to pay for targeted operations aimed at taking dangerous weapons off our streets... See more



116 People reached 1 Engagement **Boost post**

Festus Akinbusoye PCC
Published by Festus Akinbusoye · 4 September at 11:33 · 🌐

Signpost offers practical and emotional support to those living in Bedfordshire who have been impacted by crime, regardless of whether it has been reported to the Police or not; or when and where the crime occurred. You do not have to deal with the impact of crime on your own. Professional help is available. Please call us on 0800 0282 887.



You do not deserve this. It is not your fault. You are not alone.

- I will make it up to you tonight
- I had too much to drink. It won't happen again
- I just love you too much, I can't lose you. I don't want you wearing that outfit again.
- Where are you?
- I didn't mean to hurt you, you made me do it.

547 People reached 17 Engagements **Boost post**

Festus Akinbusoye PCC
Published by Festus Akinbusoye · 7 September at 09:07 · 🌐

On way from morning school run today, I see three of our Speedwatch volunteers in Maulden, monitoring speeding through the village, so I stopped to thank them for their help in keeping our roads safer. Did you know that in August, our Speedwatch volunteers conducted over 500hrs of patrols in Bedfordshire, with 407 warning letters sent out to speeding motorists in just one Borough alone? I have funded our Speedwatch Team with additional equipment so they can do in Bedfordshire... See more



Watch activity in August 2021

- 407 letters sent by Speed Watch
- 53 incidents seen by Speed Watch
- 30 Incident Reports
- 7 engagement events

835 People reached 53 Engagements **Boost post**

Festus Akinbusoye PCC
Published by Instagram · 15 September at 20:14 · Instagram · 🌐

It was a pleasure meet councillors from Sandy, Potton and Moggerhanger this evening to discuss all things community safety and policing in our rural area. We are holding several of these meetings over the next few weeks and months. Residents are invited to come along and share their views and ideas on what more can be done to keep our area safer.



512 People reached 19 Engagements **Boost post**

Festus Akinbusoye PCC
Published by Festus Akinbusoye · 3 September at 00:51 · 🌐

...perb job. I'm glad to see more and more of these days of action on partnerships with councillors, local authorities and partners. Well done all involved. 🙌



Festus Akinbusoye PCC
Published by Festus Akinbusoye · 14 September at 15:28 · 🌐

It was a real honour to visit Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service HQ this morning to meet some of the truly remarkable fire officers we have in #Bedfordshire. It was also a very useful opportunity to learn more of the collaboration between Bedfordshire Police, ambulance and fire services too. Look forward to exploring further opportunities for collaboration in the interest of our residents. Of course, as usual 😊, I couldn't refuse the invitation to get hands-on with us... See more

