



Stakeholder Update

15 May 2020



Welcome to another special edition of the stakeholder bulletin, providing you with an update on the role of Cheshire Constabulary and the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner in helping with the ongoing national emergency of the Coronavirus pandemic.

This week has seen the easing of some restrictions after weeks of strict social distancing measures. In England, the police role has changed as public health regulations have changed.

We are urging everyone who lives and works in Cheshire to keep playing their part in tackling the coronavirus crisis, ensure they are aware of the new guidelines and continue to stay at home where they can.

The community spirit shown by residents across the county during the lockdown has been remarkable and we want to thank every single person who has played their part in helping to keep the nation safe.

It has been really encouraging to see that the vast majority of residents have been sticking to the guidelines and we really need to ensure that this continues.

Many people are now able to spend more time outdoors and it is really important that we all take personal responsibility, know what the remaining regulations are and think very carefully about where we are going and how we will be able to keep our distance from others in order to keep everyone safe.

Neighbourhood policing has remained the backbone of policing in Cheshire during the past few months and our officers, PCSOs and members of the Special Constabulary have been providing a visible presence in the local community.

This will continue along with patrols in and around key locations including schools and business premises – both open and closed – to provide vital reassurance.

We police by consent and our overall aim is to continue to encourage and support our local communities to comply fully with the remaining restrictions that are in place.

Our officers will continue to engage with the public, talking from a safe distance, explain the remaining measures and what they mean and encourage people to do the right thing and abide by them of their own accord.

We will use common sense and discretion to determine what is reasonable. Officers do not want to have to use enforcement powers but it is right that they are still able to take action against those who disregard the rules and, in doing so, are potentially putting people at risk.

Officers across Cheshire are working hard to keep everyone safe in what remain challenging circumstances and we all need to work together to get through this.

We want to reassure all residents that we are here to serve and protect and maintain the best service to the public and we will continue to work as hard as we can, alongside our partners, to keep everyone safe, protect our officers and staff, and support the nationwide response.

This bulletin provides you with a snapshot of key updates from the Constabulary and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner over recent weeks. You are a valued stakeholder and we would like to thank you for your continued support.

We would also like to remind you of the ways you can get in touch with Cheshire Constabulary. In an emergency, where a crime is taking place or there is a danger to life, always dial 999.

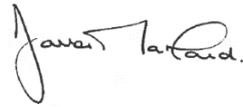
For general enquiries, please visit <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/> or if it not an emergency you can call 101.

A number of police station helpdesks remain open across Cheshire for residents who have no other means of reporting crime during the coronavirus lockdown. A total of 16 police stations will open to offer a service for members of the public who cannot contact the Constabulary online or via the phone.

Details of the helpdesks that remain open and the opening times can be accessed here: <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/news/cheshire/news/articles/2020/4/helpdesks-to-open-across-cheshire-for-residents-who-have-no-other-way-of-reporting-crime/>

The latest government advice and information on the Covid-19 Coronavirus outbreak is available via <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

David Keane – Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire
Chief Constable Darren Martland – Cheshire Constabulary



Coronavirus Q&As continue

Each week Police and Crime Commissioner David Keane has been holding virtual reassurance Q&A sessions with Chief Constable Darren Martland. These sessions provide an opportunity for members of the public to send in questions about how Cheshire Police is policing the pandemic.

The sessions take place every Tuesday and Cheshire residents and businesses are invited to send their questions to pcc@cheshire.pnn.police.uk with the subject title 'Reassurance Q&A' by midnight on Sunday to be answered the following week. Alternatively, questions can also be taken by phone during regular office hours by calling 01606 364000. A summary of the questions asked so far can be found below.

[Read More...](#)



Opening the door on domestic abuse in online web chat

Victims of domestic abuse are being reminded that they are not alone during the coronavirus crisis. Anyone suffering in silence behind closed doors or family, friends, neighbours or work colleagues with concerns about someone they know are being urged to take part in a series of virtual web chats.

Two online sessions have taken place so far and Cheshire Constabulary is working together with agencies, who provide domestic abuse support across the county as part of the 'Open the Door' campaign, to answer any questions on the force's Facebook page. The campaign aims to raise awareness of the issue, show people how to recognise the signs of domestic abuse, know what to do and have the confidence to take action.

[Read more about the first web chat...](#)

[Find out more about the second web chat...](#)



Young people in Cheshire recommend how policing can be improved

A group of young people in Cheshire have produced a report for police leaders detailing how the PCC and Cheshire Police can improve their engagement with under 25s in the county. The report by Cheshire Youth Commission was produced following an extensive research base of more than 2,000 conversations with young people across Cheshire over the last year.

The report has been welcomed by PCC David Keane and he is encouraging both Cheshire Police and other public service partners to take on board the recommendations to improve their engagement with young people.

[Read More...](#)



Special Constabulary launches operation to help protect Cheshire

A new operation has been launched by the Special Constabulary in Cheshire to enhance the force's continued work in keeping people safe during the coronavirus pandemic. The force-wide operation sees the specially trained volunteers being as visible as possible in the local community, engaging with people and providing vital reassurance and support to both residents and businesses.

The Special Constabulary are conducting proactive patrols around schools and business premises across each Local Policing Unit area, where they are working to deter, disrupt and prevent crime and anti-social behaviour.

[Read More...](#)

David Keane
Police & Crime
Commissioner
for Cheshire

**Safer
Communities
Fund**

Emergency coronavirus funding supports 31 organisations

PCC David Keane has now awarded almost £30,000 to community and non-for-profit organisations across Cheshire responding to the coronavirus pandemic. 31 organisations have now benefited from his Safer Communities Express Grant Fund which takes money seized from criminals under the Proceeds of Crime Act and reinvests it back into the local community.

[Read More about each individual project...](#)

You can find out how to apply for the Safer Communities Fund Express Grant here: <https://www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk/what-i-do/making-cheshire-safer/safer-communities-fund/>

The Commissioner has also published a list of other funding grants available to community organisations in Cheshire to help them to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. For details visit <https://www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk/news/latest-news/2020/03/emergency-funds-available-during-covid-crisis/>



Latest advice from Action Fraud

Action Fraud has provided some useful advice on how to spot the latest COVID-19 scams and what we can do to avoid them as fraudsters continue to use the current pandemic to their advantage using a number of scams to exploit vulnerable people.

[Read more...](#)

You can report any suspicions of fraud anonymously to Action Fraud on: 0300 123 2040.



Useful contacts for victims of crime

In this time of uncertainty, local victim support services continue to offer support virtually via telephone and online. This includes services which are commissioned by the Commissioner including the flagship service, Cheshire CARES, which offers support to all victims of crime across Cheshire and a number of other specialised services. Contact details are provided below:

PCC commissioned services:

- Cheshire CARES (support for all victims of crime in Cheshire) 01606 366336 or cheshire.cares@cheshire.pnn.police.uk
- RASASC (specialist support for victims of rape and sexual abuse) - 0330 363 0063
- Got Your Back (support for victims under-18 in Halton) – halton@gyb.org.uk
- Remedi (restorative justice and mediation services) – 0800 640 6466

Local domestic abuse support services:

- Cheshire East Domestic Abuse Hub – 0300 123 5101
- Cheshire West and Chester: 0300 123 7047, option 2
- Halton Domestic Abuse Forum: 0300 111 1247
- Warrington Refuge - 01925 243359

Stay in touch

To receive regular updates on the work we are doing during the coronavirus crisis, please register for updates on Cheshire Police and PCC Alert or follow our social media channels. Further details below:

Cheshire PCC

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram: @CheshirePCC

Website: www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk

Register for updates: [Cheshire PCC Alert](#)

Cheshire Constabulary

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram: @cheshirepolice

Website: www.cheshire.police.uk

Register for updates: [Cheshire Police Alert](#)