

KENT PCC NEWS

Violence against Women and Girls Report

Matthew Scott publishes his Inquiry report

Read more below.

Summer 2022



Making Kent Safer

I have talked before about my Inquiry into Violence Against Women and Girls in Kent. It's been an on-going piece of work with partners.



"Significant actions..."

have been taken to make women and girls safer, but I've heard loud and clear that more is required. Policing has responded well to improve outcomes and confidence but the whole system needs to work together to hold perpetrators to account.

So these measures I am announcing will provide transparency around criminal justice outcomes, enabling all agencies to be held to account better with the voice of victims at its heart."

The final report has now been published and contains interesting reading. As part of the process I commissioned analysis of six years of Kent Police data, specifically relating to violence against women and girls. It focused on male offenders and crime types like domestic abuse, stalking, sexual offences and drink spiking. Between April 2017 and March 2022 there have been more than 49 000 male offenders over the age of 18 and more than 56 300 different victims in Kent. And these are women who have reported the offences to the police, the real figure will be significantly higher.

The data shows that there are four times as many offences committed at home as out on the streets or in other public spaces. This happens across Kent, although there are indicators which suggest its worst in town centres with higher deprivation and more pubs. Temperature and date of birth are also drivers of crime.

This data has already prompted some changes by Kent Police. I promise to scrutinize this work rigorously and regularly. I have also been encouraged to hear about the excellent work already going on to make women and girls feel safer across the county but we need to do more.

I would like a twice yearly audit of the progress made by all criminal justice agencies and I am hoping to embed an independent victims' satisfaction survey into my new victim support provision. I also intend to commission a new prevention programme to educate young people on appropriate behaviour.



Safer Streets update

Matthew Scott's office has secured £1.4 million of additional funds to make areas in Kent safer.

The money comes from the Home Office and the work will involve colleagues from local community safety partnerships, like the police, the local councils and charitable groups.

Plus recent events...

contactyourncc@kent.police.uk

Safer Streets

We're delighted to announce we've secured just over £1.4 million to improve the safety of some more town centres in Kent and Medway. We've already made a difference to areas of Gillingham, Ramsgate, Ashford, Canterbury and Rochester and Chatham.



Now we can invest further in more CCTV, better street lighting, setting up "Safe Spaces" where you can go if you feel vulnerable or threatened, as well as undertaking environmental improvements like removing fly-tipping and graffiti. The money will focus on projects in Maidstone, Canterbury, Rochester and Chatham and Gravesham. It will do more of the above, provide active by-stander training, and increase the number of outreach workers.



Recent events

We really enjoyed meeting you at both the Kent Police Open Days from 2-4 July and the County Show between 8-10 July.



We had thousands of visitors to our stand, and many left wearing our trade mark police hats!



For more updates you can follow us on social media

