



# Working together to keep communities safe this Spring

## Tackling crime and road safety priorities of PCSP

As Spring arrives and we look ahead to the coming months, Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) continues to work in close partnership with the PSNI and community organisations to address safety priorities across our district.

The partnership approach that has been at the heart of our work continues to deliver real results for local communities, from tackling road safety and preventing crime to supporting vulnerable residents and celebrating those who make outstanding contributions to keeping our area safe.

PCSP Chair Keith Kerrigan reflected on the importance of the collaborative work being done across the district.

He said; "The success of everything we do depends on strong partnerships and community engagement. Whether it's working with local businesses on safety campaigns, supporting



Alderman Keith Kerrigan, Chair of Derry and Strabane PCSP, pictured with the Community Safety Wardens and some of the pupils who attended the amazing YES Project at Shantallow Community Centre. The project, funded via PCSP's Consensual Grant Process, engaged with hundreds of young people from across the city and district helping them learn important safety messages they can take with them into later life.

schools to protect our children, or partnering with voluntary organisations to tackle specific issues, we achieve far more together than we ever could alone.

"As we move into Spring and Summer, our focus remains on practical initiatives that make a real difference to people's daily lives. We're proud of what has been achieved through partnership working, but we know there's always more to do. The commitment and dedication of our local communities, alongside the professionalism of the PSNI and our partner organisations, gives me great confidence that we can continue to build on our successes and address emerging challenges. "I want to thank everyone who plays a part in keeping our communities safe - from our Neighbourhood Watch members who are the eyes and ears in local areas, to the businesses,

schools, youth organisations and individuals who support our initiatives.

"Your involvement makes all the difference, and I encourage everyone to stay engaged, stay vigilant, and continue working with us to make Derry and Strabane a safer place for all."

The coming months will see PCSP continue its programme of targeted safety initiatives, working closely with local communities to address priorities as they emerge.

From road safety to crime prevention, from supporting young people to protecting vulnerable adults, the partnership approach remains central to everything we do.

The PCSP also continues to support community projects through its grant programmes, helping local groups deliver activities and initiatives that contribute to community safety and wellbeing across the district.

These grassroots projects play a vital role in building stronger, safer communities and complement the wider partnership work being done. The PCSP encourages all residents to stay engaged with community safety issues and to make use of the resources and support available. Whether it's attending Neighbourhood Watch meetings, accessing crime prevention advice, or simply staying informed about local safety initiatives, your involvement helps create the safer communities we all want to live in.

• *If you have concerns about safety in your area, would like to get involved in local initiatives, or want to find out more about PCSP's work, please contact your local PCSP representative or visit the council website for more information.*

## Derry Strabane PCSP supporting local initiatives



Alderman Keith Kerrigan, Chair of Derry and Strabane PCSP, pictured with Theresa Burke and pupils at Castleterg High School. Theresa shared the powerful story of her son Kealan with Year 11-14 pupils - an important and unforgettable message about the devastating impact of drugs on individuals, families and communities. The event was funded by PCSP.



PCSP Vice-Chair, Karl Duncan visited Londonderry YMCA's innovative 'Think Beyond Me' Youth Diversionary Project in Drumahoe. This important initiative was funded through the PCSP's Consensual Grant funding stream.



Alderman Keith Kerrigan, Chair of Derry and Strabane PCSP, pictured with the Crime Prevention Officer and local PSNI officers at a recent trailer marking event which took place in Castleterg. This rural crime prevention event successfully security marked 20 trailers and 13 quads for local residents. The event was funded by PCSP.

# Scammers active all year round

As we move into Spring, residents are being urged to remain vigilant against scammers who are constantly looking for new victims, regardless of the season.

Anyone can be targeted by a scam, and criminals are continuously changing their tactics to lure people in and steal their money. Methods may vary, but the core objective remains the same – scammers are after your personal and financial details, which can then be used to commit more sophisticated fraud where losses can be substantial.

Common scams reported to local police include online fraud, ticket scams, romance fraud, and impersonation scams where people are contacted by someone pretending to be a family member asking for money. Many people have also fallen victim to purchasing what they believed were genuine products or tickets online, only to discover they don't exist, the seller has disappeared, and their money has been stolen.

Traditional scams also continue to catch people out, with fraudsters claiming to be from banks, HMRC, or telecoms providers. These scammers often use pressure tactics and create false urgency to panic victims into handing over money or personal information.

Keith Kerrigan, Chair of Derry and Strabane PCSP, added: "Scammers are becoming increasingly sophisticated in their approaches, and perpetrators are constantly on the lookout for new victims. Everyone must remain vigilant. Older people are often targeted, but anyone can fall victim to these criminals. By becoming more informed and scam-savvy, we can all reduce the risks and protect ourselves and our families."

The PCSP has been working with Derry City and Strabane District Council's Age Friendly team to raise awareness, including the launch of an informative leaflet highlighting ways to avoid scams and providing practical advice on how to spot suspicious activity.

## Protect yourself: Stop, Check, Report

- Stop before you transfer money or disclose any personal details to anyone you don't know. Don't feel rushed or pressured by timelines. Take your time. Genuine callers will always give you time to consider your options.
- Report if you've been a victim. Contact police at [www.psnl.police.uk/report](http://www.psnl.police.uk/report) or call 101. Report it to your bank immediately. Report it at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or call 0300 123 2040. Forward scam texts to 7726.
- You can also download the PCSP scam awareness leaflet from council at [www.derrystrabane.com](http://www.derrystrabane.com) or simply send an email to [agefriendly@derrystrabane.com](mailto:agefriendly@derrystrabane.com) asking for a printed copy.
- Check and verify who you are communicating with using a trusted source. Where possible, verify callers on another phone line and check images via an image search. Remember if you are in any doubt, don't transfer money or goods.
- Remember, if something seems too good to be true, it usually is. Visit the website at [www.psnl.police.uk/safety-and-support/keeping-safe/scams-and-fraud](http://www.psnl.police.uk/safety-and-support/keeping-safe/scams-and-fraud) for detailed information on various types of scams and fraud.
- By staying alert and sharing information with friends and family, we can all help protect our community from these criminals who are ready to spring on any opportunity to dupe people and steal their money.

**scamwiseNI**  
PARTNERSHIP

**SCAMMERS  
THINK THEY'RE  
SMART. YOU'RE  
SMARTER.**

**STOP.  
CHECK.  
REPORT.**

Visit [psni.police.uk/report](http://psni.police.uk/report) to report scam activity.

ScamwiseNI  Department of Justice 

# Keeping the district safe during darker months

As we move into Spring, Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) can reflect on a successful period of collaborative working with the PSNI and other community partners to keep our district safe during the festive season and through the darker months.

From November through to the New Year, the PCSP worked on multiple fronts to address seasonal safety concerns, from road safety campaigns and protecting schoolchildren during dark mornings and evenings, to supporting the annual festive policing operation.

The programme began with a practical road safety initiative that saw 15,000 specially-designed beer mats distributed to licensed premises throughout the city and district.

Funded by the PCSP in partnership with Strabane Business Improvement District (BID), the mats carried the simple but powerful message "never ever drink and drive", placing a crucial reminder directly in front of people when they were making decisions about how to get home safely during the festive season.

With drink-driving being one of the Fatal Five main causes of road deaths, the campaign reinforced that there is no safe amount of alcohol to consume before driving.

As the dark nights drew in, the PCSP teamed up

with the PSNI to provide 800 reflective safety kits for schoolchildren across Strabane and Derry.

Local police officers visited schools throughout the district to distribute the kits, ensuring young pedestrians were clearly visible to motorists during morning and evening commutes when daylight was limited.

The initiative provided vital protection during the months when the risk of road traffic incidents increases.

The PCSP also supported the PSNI's annual Operation Season's Greetings, which saw increased police visibility and patrols across the district throughout the festive period.

The operation brought together multiple agencies including Translink, City Centre Initiative, and Foyle Women's Information Network in a coordinated effort to keep people safe while shopping and socialising, prevent crime in busy



Vanessa Russell, PCSP Manager, and Alderman Keith Kerrigan, Chair of Derry and Strabane PCSP hand over 800 reflective kits to Chief Inspector Graeme Craig for distribution to local schoolchildren.

areas, tackle violence against women and girls and promote road safety. The partnership approach ensured local communities remained safe and welcoming spaces throughout Christmas and New Year.

Commenting on the programme of activities, Keith Kerrigan, Chair of Derry and Strabane PCSP, said: "I'm very proud of what we achieved over these months working in partnership with the PSNI and our community partners. From the beer mats in our pubs and restaurants to the reflective kits

for schoolchildren, and supporting Operation Season's Greetings these initiatives demonstrated our commitment to keeping people safe at every level. The success of these practical, targeted interventions shows what can be achieved when we work together, and I want to thank everyone involved – our partners, local businesses, schools, and the wider community – for playing their part in keeping our district safe during what can be a challenging time of year."



Vanessa Russell, PCSP Manager, and Alderman Keith Kerrigan, Chair of Derry and Strabane PCSP pictured at the launch of PSNI's 'Season's Greetings' campaign.



Vanessa Russell, PCSP Manager, and Alderman Keith Kerrigan, Chair of Derry and Strabane PCSP pictured at the launch of the beer mat initiatives in Derry and Strabane.





## City and Rural Team Contact Details

### TRIAX/Waterside Wardens

(Bogside, Brandywell, Fountain Estate, Creggan and Waterside urban areas)

Telephone: **07709 457690**

### Outer North/Outer West Wardens

(Shantallow, Galliagh, Ballyarnett, Culmore, Rosemount, Glen, Ballymagroarty, Hazelbank areas)

Telephone: **07736 213140**

### Rural Wardens

(Strathfoyle, Eglinton, Claudy, Park, Maydown, Newbuildings, Strabane, Sion Mills, Newtownstewart, Castlederg, Donemana, Artigarvan, Ballymagorry and Clady areas)

Telephone: **07736 213152**

Hours of Service City and Rural Team	
Thursday.....	5.30pm-3am
Friday.....	5.30pm-3am
Saturday.....	5.30pm-3am
Sunday.....	5.30pm-3am
Monday.....	12noon-5pm
Tuesday.....	12noon-5pm
Wednesday.....	12noon-5pm

## Northland Team Contact Details

University Sector, Student Housing Areas, Rosemount, Duncreggan and Lower Strand

Telephone: **07738 916208**  
**07734 580489**

Hours of Service (Northland Team)	
Sunday.....	8pm-3am
Monday.....	8pm-3am
Tuesday.....	8pm-3am
Wednesday.....	8pm-3am
Thursday.....	8pm-3am

# Useful contact numbers



PCSP Office: 028 7125 3253.

Email [pcsp@derrystrabane.com](mailto:pcsp@derrystrabane.com)

Always call **999** in an emergency

- **Police: 101** is the non-emergency number
- **Lifeline (24 hours) - 0808 8088000**
- **Samaritans (24 hours) - 116 123**
- **HURT (Mon-Fri 9am-4:30pm) - 028 7136 9696**
- **Domestic and Sexual Abuse Helpline 0808 802 1414**
- **Zest (9am-5pm) - 028 7126 6999**
- **CAMHS - 028 7186 5238**
- **Childline (24 hours) - 0800 1111**
- **CRUSE - 028 7186 5238**
- **StepChange Debt Charity (Helpline) 0800 138 1111**
- **Altnagelvin Hospital (24 hours) 028 7134 5171**
- **Foyle Search and Rescue - 028 7131 3800**
- **Elder Abuse Response Helpline - 080 8808 8141**
- **Action Fraud - 0300 123 2040**
- **Victim Support - 028 7137 0086**
- **Flooding Incident Line - 0300 2000 100**
- **NI Electricity Networks - 03457 643643**
- **NI Gas Emergency Service - 0800 002 001**
- **NI Water - 03457 440 088**
- **Housing Executive - 03448 920901**
- **Roads Service - 0300 200 7899**

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For further information on alternative formats please email: [equality@derrystrabane.com](mailto:equality@derrystrabane.com)

