



March 2026



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER

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Welcome to the March edition of my Notts Voices newsletter. This is a great opportunity for me to speak directly with you, the people of Nottinghamshire, and update you on what we have been getting up to over the past month.

PCC Gary Godden



Partners unite to brighten the futures of Nottinghamshire’s young people

A groundbreaking partnership in Nottinghamshire is helping to steer vulnerable children away from crime and towards brighter, safer futures.

The Young Futures Programme is bringing together partners to provide children and families the opportunity to receive the right help at the right time before problems escalate.

Through local multi-agency panels, partners share information and work closely together to ensure every opportunity is taken to spot the signs of troubling behaviour or vulnerability. The panels then collaborate on formulating a tailored package of support to meet their individual needs and support them.

The initiative forms part of a pilot programme in Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) areas, with Nottinghamshire one of the 20 areas selected to lead the way.

In Nottinghamshire, the initial pilot areas launched in October in Mansfield and Aspley, with several children and young people already having received support so far.

The work is overseen locally through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Nottinghamshire, the VRP and local partners including management and coordination from Mansfield District Council and Nottingham City Council.



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NOTTINGHAM

ROCKCORPS

powered by  experian.

Global initiative coming to Nottingham

A GLOBAL initiative that brings together community action, skill-building and live music is coming to Nottingham this month, as registrations for Nottingham RockCorps open this February.

The initiative, which rewards community volunteering with tickets to exclusive concerts, is being delivered locally by the High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire in partnership with RockCorps.

Nottingham RockCorps is powered by lead partner Experian, with a coalition of supporting partners including the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Nottinghamshire, E.On, DHP Family, Manchester Airport Group, Nottingham College, Cartwright, Nottingham City Business Club, Forever Notts, It's in Nottingham and Raven Sky Consulting.

Registrations opened on 24 February at www.nottinghamrockcorps.com, where people are invited to sign up to giving just four hours of their time to local community causes, in exchange for a ticket to an exclusive gig at Rock City on 8 April 2026.

Commissioner welcomes plans to prevent children from carrying knives

Plans to prevent children from carrying knives by better understanding the root causes of their behaviour have been welcomed by Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner Gary Godden.

New government guidance has made it mandatory for children caught in possession of knives to be given intervention plans that unpick the underlying reasons for their behaviour, while also considering safeguarding concerns, as part of a “child-centred” approach to preventing reoffending.

It sees them given tailored support to deal with the issues that led them to carrying a knife, such as exploitation, experience of trauma or mental health issues.



Virtual reality project helps educate young people about the consequences of knife crime

An immersive virtual reality (VR) project has been launched to help educate young people in Nottingham about the dangers and potentially devastating consequences of carrying a knife.

Using VR headsets, two groups of students from The Bulwell Academy were placed into realistic scenarios where they were faced with making decisions in response to what they witnessed first-hand, allowing them to experience the potential consequences of knife crime in a safe environment, and then seeing how their choices influenced the outcome of the experience.

The work comes after a wider initiative funded by the Safer Streets programme, led by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Nottinghamshire.



Out and about on our latest Public Trust Patrol

The PCC was joined recently by Temporary Chief Constable Steve Cooper and Newark and Sherwood District Commander Charlotte Ellam for a Public Trust Patrol in Ollerton and Southwell.

Together, they spoke with local business owners and members of the public, listening to concerns, answering questions and hearing first-hand how visible policing and partnership working are making a difference, with the feedback overwhelmingly positive from those in the area.



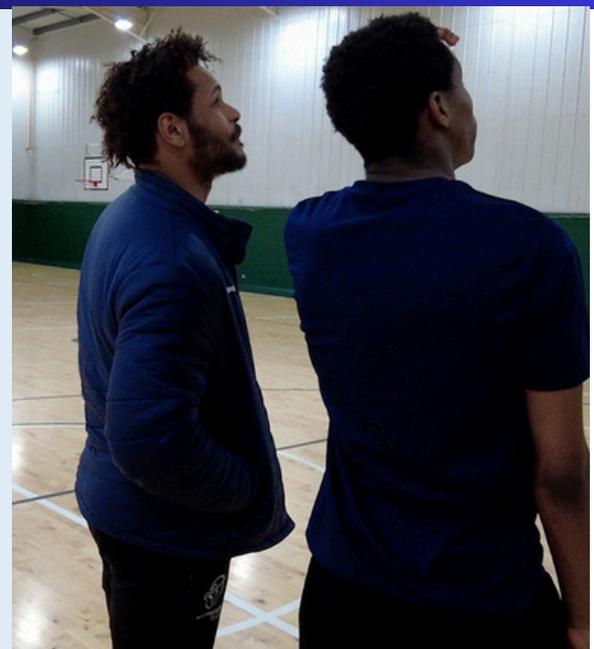
Sport in Sneinton improving wellbeing

Young people in Sneinton are reaping the rewards of a sports-based initiative aimed at improving physical and mental wellbeing.

The school mentoring project works with at risk teenagers, delivered by 3Pillars Project and funded through the Violence Reduction Partnership.

The sessions run every Wednesday for groups of between 15 and 20 children, with two coaches delivering targeted sports training and a sideline coach/mentor to facilitate conversation, reflection and participation.

They are delivered for Sneinton Nottingham Academy students at Wildcats Arena.



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Former prolific shoplifters use lived experience to help combat retail crime

Three former shoplifters shared their invaluable insights into security measures and products to prevent retail crime during a partnership event hosted by Nottinghamshire Police.

James, Nick, and Jack have managed to turn their backs on offending and drugs with the help of Nottinghamshire Police's Open 2 Recovery scheme, and gave insights into how they would have reacted in the different scenarios they were presented with, as well as lifting the lid on their own decision-making processes.

The programme is part-funded by Nottinghamshire OPCC with other funding providers including Probation.



Successful first Public Safety Social in Bassetlaw

PCC Gary Godden held his first Public Safety Social event in Bassetlaw in February.

The event brought together the public, police, council and local service providers, and enabled local issues to be identified.

Solutions were then sought collaboratively via round table discussions as the evening progressed.

Public Safety Socials will be held in every area of Nottinghamshire, keep an eye on OPCC social media channels to find out where we're heading next!



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0115 844 5998
officepcc@notts.police.uk
nottinghamshire.pcc.police.uk

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Joint Headquarters, Sherwood Lodge, NG5 8PP

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