



Welcome to my autumn community update on policing and community safety for the north Devon area.

You may have heard in the media last week that the Police Authority, in light of the Government removing the shared Public Confidence Target, decided to adopt the national indicator for policing based on the question;-

“How good a job do you believe your local police are doing ?” (The measure is on those answering ‘good’ or ‘excellent’).

I am really pleased to let you know against this category, for the entire UK, Devon and Cornwall are the **second highest** performing.

Performance locally continues to see north Devon police at the top of the pile for Devon and Cornwall measured across all categories.

Our crime reduction from last year’s 15% fall has improved by a further 7% meaning 301 fewer victims to than last year with detections running at 35%.

This is quite remarkable with Barnstaple Sector, in particular, having unprecedented performance. This Sector had ‘offences brought to justice’ over the past two months running on a 2:1 ratio. At one point 52% of all recorded crimes were resulting in a recordable judicial outcome.

Braunton, Ilfracombe and South Molton in the North Sector have continued with their incredible reductions in serious acquisitive crime and have further reduced these types of incidents by a staggering 30.6% over last year.

Torrige also are performing very well and have the highest detection rate in the two counties for dwelling burglaries at 47 %.

We are working hard to keep up this momentum and drive improvements through Safer North Devon the Community Safety partnership and supportive initiatives. I truly believe a strong partnership in these times of reducing resources and shrinking funds is the only effective way to drive community safety.

Key areas identified as having the greatest impact on community safety and generally improving the way we live in north Devon are all linked to the misuse of alcohol and its impact on violent crimes, particularly anti social behaviour, the young and vulnerable in society.

Between now and Christmas Safer North Devon and Police Neighbourhood support in conjunction with other key partners are delivering 17 projects and campaigns. All projects have the common threads of Alcohol, ASB prevention and Violent crime reduction.

They range from activities for Alcohol Awareness Week focussing on Proxy Sales and the consequences, to extra access to alcohol information for young people and families in Green Lanes and Petroc. A groundbreaking alcohol and Domestic Violence campaign (For Domestic Violence Awareness Week in November) supported by all local supermarkets issuing over 70,000 leaflets into homes across Northern Devon. Messages on Halloween, Bonfire Night and the review of another successful Phoenix Project.

Safer North Devon, Barnstaple Police Station, North Walk, Barnstaple, Devon  
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building safer communities together





£43,400 has just been awarded to projects across our area as the final Safer Devon Partnership grants were allocated for the year. The bids were sponsored by Safer North Devon and include the final phase of social enterprise project for the Freedom Centre, funds for North Devon Homes to invest in Gorwell and Ilfracombe for young people projects, an investment for Bideford to establish a new youth volunteering centre, and another equipment purchase for Probation for the PRIDE initiative.

This month saw the third edition of Safe and Sound the SND newsletter which can be found along with other news and information on

[www.safernorthdevon.co.uk](http://www.safernorthdevon.co.uk)

We are in the final year of a three year community safety plan for Northern Devon, and once we have new direction confirmed from central government we start again to review priorities for local action plans, and engage with all our partners to make sure we get this right in the current constrained climate.

I would like to thank you for your support in this huge success for policing and partnership operations in north Devon. We are very proud to be the best performing policing area in the Force and recognise this is only possible with the generous support and involvement of all our partners and influential individuals across the area.

Thank you and look forward to seeing you all soon.

Kevin A Harris.  
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**"The Police and District Councils, with other partners, work together as "Safer North Devon", your local Community Safety Partnership, responding to local issues around Crime, reducing Anti-Social Behaviour and building confidence in our communities.**

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