

Nick's News

Issue 1

Nick Alston, PCC for Essex



Where has your PCC been this month?

2nd April
James Hornsby High School in Basildon

3rd April
Thurrock Public Meeting

12th April
Southend Ethnic Minority Forum

Keeping Essex Safe

HELLO and welcome to the PCC'S first newsletter. This regular publication will keep you updated on the latest news from our office and inform you of some of April's key moments happening across Essex.

From Braintree to Basildon, our home county means as much to me as it does to you. This newsletter will contain statements of principle about important issues as I both support and challenge Essex Police to contin-

ue doing the best job possible to keep our county safe. Enjoy this month's edition and please post your thoughts on my Twitter or Facebook account.

Nick Alston ..

Nick Alston, Essex PCC



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Using Force Reasonably

This month, Nick Alston wrote about Taser and the use of force by Essex Police: "Typically, any decision an officer makes about the use of force will involve a fine judgement about the balance of harm and risk."

The level of force and the circumstances in which police officers "use" Taser is an area of legitimate public interest. I believe it is important that I introduce a framework

to monitor and review the use of force by Essex Police on a regular basis."

For the FULL story, check out the website.

Staying Safe: it's Crucial

The culmination of a series of workshops across Basildon district enabled Year 6 pupils to learn about keeping safe and meet their Police and Crime Commissioner. On Wednesday April 2, the Crucial Crew team held a series of workshops at James Hornsby

High School in Basildon, with pupils from neighbouring schools including South Green Junior School also involved. The topics included healthy relationships, anti-social behaviour, drugs and alcohol, fire safety, bullying and weapons awareness.



Nick Alston greets the schoolchildren in Basildon

Recording Crime Correctly



**Nick Alston
believes accurate
data is essential**

The PCC welcomed the report of the Public Administration Select Committee into police recorded crime statistics. After giving evidence to the Committee's hearing of November 19, 2013, the PCC published an article stressing the importance of recording crime correctly, and his judgement remains the same. It is clear that a rigid performance target culture can have perverse and unintended consequences.

The Committee's report states: "Some PCCs consider the perverse incentives created by targets to be so serious that they have dropped all targets. We applaud them. The attitudes and behaviour which lead to the misrecording of crime have become ingrained, including within senior leadership. This leads to the subordination of data integrity to target-chasing. This can present officers

with a conflict between achievement of targets and core policing values."

Nick is clear that it is essential that crime is recorded accurately and ethically. "This is a matter of police integrity, of treating victims with respect and of ensuring that officers have the most accurate possible information."

For the FULL story, visit the website.

"We funded a part of the project through our New Initiatives Fund"
Nick Alston, PCC

Funding Supports Volunteers

An outstanding policing project which helps to tackle crime and keep local communities safe celebrated its one year anniversary this week at Colchester Police Station. The volunteer-led project was championed by District Commander Richard Phillibrown, Pc Michael Lee and PCSO Aaron Hunter.

The aim of Operation Homeguard is to provide residents with reassurance, crime prevention advice and on occasion seek local intelligence about criminal behaviour.
For the FULL story, visit our website



Homeguard Project in Colchester

Write to Us...

As Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), I oversee Essex Police and have responsibility for ensuring that the police force is efficient, effective and fair.

My office will reply to all correspondence within 20 working days, and will inform you if it is not possible to respond in full within this period.

If your enquiry is about an operational policing matter, then it will be passed to Essex Police for them to respond to you direct.

The PCC office is based in Chelmsford



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