



We start the month with a little more confidence about the future of police funding following Chancellor George Osborne's pledge to protect the overall policing budget in the Government's recent Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR). Whilst this position is to be welcomed, we must not become complacent or ignore the fact that savings of £5 million will still need to be made in Cambridgeshire in 2016/17 to protect current service levels. The full implications of the CSR for the Force should become clearer towards the end of December as grant levels for individual forces are finalised and we learn how much of our budget will be 'top sliced' for national programmes.

In order to meet the significant savings needed, work continues to develop collaboration agreements with Bedfordshire Police and Hertfordshire Constabulary. In November I signed three new agreements to collaborate on Human Resources, Firearms and Explosives Licensing and Public Contact Management. By having a tri-force approach to these areas we will be able to provide a stronger, more efficient service and use financial savings to protect the front line.

As we rapidly approach Christmas and the New Year celebrations, I would like to take the opportunity to reiterate the Force's drink drive safety message and urge motorists to leave their vehicles at home if they plan a festive drink. The county's roads will be patrolled by traffic officers throughout the Christmas and New Year period to target those who drive under the influence. The message is simple: eat, drink and be merry – but do not drive.

May I wish you all a very merry festive season and a happy new year.

Sir Graham Bright
Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner



Take Over Day

Safety-conscious students were given the chance of taking control of Cambridgeshire Constabulary for the day as part of a national campaign promoting the voice of young people.



Eight students from Soham Village College attended Force HQ to explore the world of policing and learn more about community safety decision-making processes as part of Take Over Day 2015.

The annual campaign, run by the Children's Commissioner for England, encourages young people to experience the world of adult work by taking on a variety of public roles.

During the visit, the young people spent time with Chief Inspector Laura Hunt, Area Commander for Huntingdon, and members of the local policing team before being briefed about key policing issues for the county and Force priorities for the area.

Members of the Special Constabulary were also on hand to provide practical examples on how to prioritise resources according to need before the youngsters were invited to take part in a practical exercise.

Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner Sir Graham Bright said: "Policing can be a very challenging job but the young participants took it all in their stride and responded to problems in a very intelligent and appropriate way."

Equality Pledge Agreement

Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner Sir Graham Bright has symbolised his commitment to equality and diversity by adding his name to a new Equality Pledge.

Sir Graham has joined a host of public, voluntary and private sector organisations to sign up to the Equality Pledge – a simple promise that commits signatory organisations to appreciate and value the benefits that different communities can contribute to Cambridgeshire.

The initiative is part of the build-up to [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans History Month](#) which will take place in February 2016. Representatives from the Constabulary and the Police & Crime Commissioner's Office joined Cambridge City Mayor Cllr Rob Dryden at a special launch event in November to promote the promise.

Sir Graham said: "The Equality Pledge sends out a strong message that Cambridgeshire aspires to be a safe, welcoming and inclusive county. The Force and I are working hard to tackle prejudices through our zero-tolerance approach to hate crime. This involves taking a robust approach to enforcement and ensuring incidents are investigated and prosecuted to increase confidence among victims."

Individuals and organisations can make their own Equality Pledge by visiting: www.cambridge.gov.uk/equality-pledge and supporting the hashtag #EqualityPledge.



Operation Hunter

Police in Cambridgeshire are taking action to help householders prevent crime by visiting homes at risk of being burgled.

Operation Hunter sees officers targeting properties that are left unsecure or vulnerable to burglars in an effort to reduce the number of burglaries.

In the three months from August to October last year, there were 569 dwelling burglaries in the county, compared to 628 during the following three months (November-January) - a rise of more than 10 per cent. Burglary is a priority for the Force because of the fear and vulnerability it leaves within the community and the impact it has on victims.

Activity will be taking place across the county with officers patrolling hot spot areas and visiting residents to offer home security surveys. Residents whose homes are identified as at risk will be offered advice and crime prevention material.

Crime safety officer Carol Aston said: "Detectives are working hard to identify burglars and bring them to justice but the other main strand of our work is around prevention. We are seeking out those homes that are most at risk of being burgled, whether it is their location or that they've been left unsecure. Our main aim is to raise awareness of what can be done to make your home uninviting to burglars."

Anyone with information should contact police on 101 or Crime stoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555111 or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

For more information on burglary prevention visit <http://www.cambs-police.co.uk/GetCloser/Burglary.asp>

Don't get coned this Christmas

Cambridgeshire Constabulary's Fraud and Cyber Investigation Unit is backing a national campaign warning people to protect themselves from online crime.

The initiative, launched by Action Fraud, City of London Police and Get Safe Online, comes after national figures from last Christmas showed individuals and businesses lost £16,426,989 to fraudsters through online shopping and auction fraud – a 42% rise compared to the festive period in 2013 when £9,522,491 was lost.

The most common time for victims to be duped was Black Friday and Cyber Monday as more people flocked to the internet looking for a bargain. Many had ordered smart phones that never arrived and also footwear, clothing, watches, gaming consoles, computers and home electricals.

The campaign, called 'Don't get coned this Christmas' focuses on staying safe while shopping during the festive and New Year period. Top safety tips include:

- Paying by credit card provides greater protection against fraud
- Ensuring the link is secure before entering payment details online (there should be a padlock symbol in the browser window frame)
- Never transfer money directly to someone's account, use a secure payment site such as PayPal
- Always log out of sites into which you have logged in or registered details.

To report a fraud and receive a police crime reference number call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

Rural Crime Crackdown

Cambridgeshire Constabulary joined partners for a 'day of action' focusing on crime in the rural economy.

The rural crime day was jointly organised by Countryside Watch, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, National Farmers' Union (NFU) and the Office of the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner.



During the action day, police officers, members of the Special Constabulary and partner agencies carried out mobile patrols and stop checks, investigating suspicious activity. A tractor was loaned to the Force and branded with police signage and used as a focus for community interaction and engagement.

Chief Inspector James Sutherland said: "Parts of Cambridgeshire are very rural and can often be targeted by criminals. While we have seen the number of rural crime incidents in the county reduce by about a third in the past year, we have seen a spike in hare coursing, which was a focus during the day of action."

The day was followed up with a series of 'barn meetings', held in conjunction with agricultural security firm Cesar, to install property marking systems on farm machinery.

Youth Fund

Youth groups are being invited to apply for a share of a £40,000 fund to help Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner Sir Graham Bright divert youngsters away from crime.

Sir Graham's Youth Fund is available to organisations that support his Police and Crime Plan and pledges to tackle crime and disorder and promote activities which motivate young people.

Grants of up to £2,000 are available to charities and community groups through the [Cambridgeshire Community Foundation](#).

Sir Graham said: "We must not underestimate the power of local grassroots projects in transforming the lives of disadvantaged young people. These diversionary activities not only provide an immediate solution to antisocial behaviour by providing an alternative focus for their attention, but they also help to motivate young people in the longer term by increasing their skills, confidence and employment prospects."



Peterborough Police Amateur Boxing Club benefitted from a £1500 grant towards new equipment.

To apply for funding visit:

<http://www.cambscf.org.uk/pcc.html>. For guidance on the application process, contact Jane Darlington at the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation on 01223 410535.

Useful Links:

[Cambridgeshire Police](http://www.cambs.police.uk)

www.cambs.police.uk

[Cambridgeshire
Neighbourhood Watch](http://www.cambsnhw.org.uk)

www.cambsnhw.org.uk

[Peterborough
Neighbourhood Watch](http://www.peterboroughnhw.co.uk)

www.peterboroughnhw.co.uk

[Police UK](http://www.police.uk)

www.police.uk

[Cambridgeshire
Countryside Watch](http://www.cambscountrysidewatch.co.uk)

www.cambscountrysidewatch.co.uk

[e-cops Cambridgeshire
Constabulary](http://www.ecops.org.uk)

www.ecops.org.uk

[Crimestoppers UK](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)

www.crimestoppers-uk.org

[Government Services
Website](http://www.gov.uk)

www.gov.uk

[National Fraud and Cyber
Crime Reporting Centre](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)

www.actionfraud.police.uk

[Speedwatch](http://www.cambridgeshirespeedwatch.org/)

www.cambridgeshirespeedwatch.org/

[Victims Hub](http://www.cambs.police.uk/victims/VictimsHub/)

www.cambs.police.uk/victims/VictimsHub/

[Cambridgeshire
Community Foundation](http://www.cambscf.org.uk/)

www.cambscf.org.uk/

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Surgeries / Contact Points

Details about local surgeries, Police Contact Points and other events where Sir Graham Bright or his representatives will be present are regularly updated and listed on the Cambridgeshire PCC website. Click the link below for details:

[Find out more here](#)

Community Safety Partnerships

- [Safer Peterborough Partnership](#)
- [Fenland Community Safety Partnership](#)
- [Cambridge Community Safety Partnership](#)
- [Huntingdonshire Community Safety Partnership](#)
- [South Cambridgeshire Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership](#)
- [East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership](#)

MAKING CONTACT:

I know that it is important that you can keep up to date with what my Deputy, my team and I are doing. I am here to represent the public ensuring the voice of the people is heard and that the police are accountable to the public.

I pledged to be the voice of the people. You can contact me at any time to ask questions or put your views across.

You can visit:
www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk

You can follow me:



You can write to me at:
Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner
PO Box 688, Huntingdon, PE29 9LA.

Email me at:
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