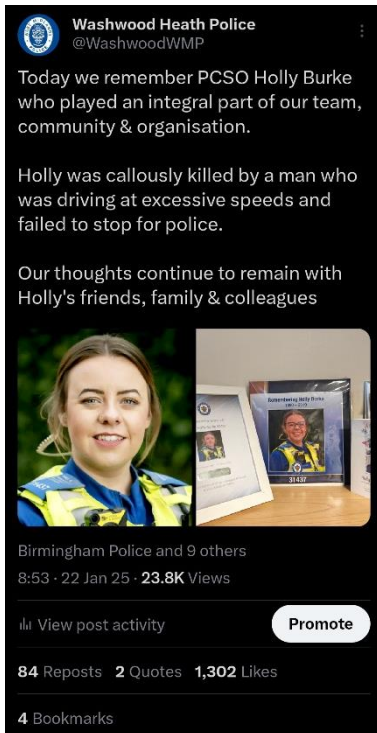


# Washwood Heath Neighbourhood Team Newsletter

## January 2025



### Remembering PCSO Holly Burke

January remains a sombre month each year as we remember PCSO Holly Burke who was a PCSO on our team. Holly was sadly killed whilst she was driving home from work.

In the short time that Holly was on the team, she engaged with community groups, Schools and carried out street patrols with community members.

Colleagues and the community spoke highly of Holly and how she had a positive influence on everyone that she interacted and engaged with.

***Holly remains close to our hearts and our thoughts remain with Holly's friends, family, colleagues and loved ones.***

### My Community Fund

The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner has launched funding for the My Community Fund, where **individuals and organisations can bid for up to £5000**. The first round of funding will open on Monday 3 February and the second round will be on Monday 16 June.

We encourage you to share this and apply [here](#) if you have projects that are aligned to the Police and Crime Plan objectives, which can be found on the link.

### Parking Enforcement

Officers have been issuing tickets with **84 parking enforcement tickets issues in January**. This has been a community led approach by asking the public to inform us on where to focus our patrols.

We have worked with the Ward End Residents Group to carry out enforcement in and around Eastfield Road, Gumbleberrys estate, West View and Torrey Grove. We have also carried out numerous enforcement activities in and around Alum Rock Road, St Saviours Road and parallel roads. On occasions where appropriate, we have seized vehicles for obstructing the public highway.



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### Arrests

There have been a number of arrests carried out by the team in January including offenders who have been wanted on recall to prison, failing to appear at court, harassment, assault and other offences.

**ONS data suggests that crimes recorded by WMP have reduced by 8% in the year to Sept 2024 in comparison to the previous 12 months.** This includes a reduction in robbery offences by 8%, vehicle crime, serious youth violence and domestic abuse by 11%, a 12% reduction in burglaries and 29% reduction in theft from the person offences.

We are responding to incidents quicker than ever before, answering 999 and 101 calls promptly and improving our investigations to ensure that offenders are brought to justice.



### Virtual Decisions: Influence

After launching the Virtual Decisions: Influence VR film at Lloyd House, we were pleased to be part of the first trial of the VR film and workshop at Rockwood Academy on Tuesday 28 January. Young people got to experience the VR film which is based on County Lines, where they could make decisions in a safe environment and discuss/share their learning and experiences.

The BBC attended to film the session and workshop with PCSO Dan Gorman being trained in delivering workshops. We are fortunate that this will be rolled out to all Schools across Washwood Heath.



### Community SpeedWatch

We continue to train community members in SpeedWatch, where we will carry out enforcement activities and issue warning letters or tickets to drivers going over the speed limit. We have already carried out operations on Highfield Road, Cotterill Lane and Burney Lane.

We are fortunate to have officers trained in speed enforcement devices and tint master device to have illegal tints removed from vehicles.

Want to get involved? Get in touch.

