

A major recruitment drive to recruit PCSOs begins on 11 March, thanks to increased funding to the precept from the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Over the next year our local policing will be strengthened with 100 new PCSOs being recruited.

As well as joining the force, the recruits will undertake a new learning and development programme- the PCSO Apprenticeship – that will result in a Level 4 Diploma in Community Policing Practice.

Sussex Police is among the first forces in the country to introduce this apprenticeship programme.

Chief Constable Giles York said: “With the precept increase we are able to recruit an additional 100 PCSOs over the next year. By recruiting more PCSOs and putting them where they are most needed we will be in the best position to achieve our aim of keeping our communities safe and feeling safe.”

“I am delighted we are offering this new qualification to all of our new PCSO recruits. This fantastic opportunity means that we are professionalising policing and with it, continue to demonstrate the value of the work all of our teams do on a daily basis. We believe that by offering an apprenticeship we can ensure policing remains an attractive and competitive career option. We expect that it will appeal to those who may not have considered policing as a career choice for them in the past.”

Police and Crime Commissioner, Katy Bourne said: “Sussex residents have been telling me they want a more visible and accessible policing presence in their communities to listen to their concerns and deter crime and anti-social behaviour.

“The Chief Constable and I have promised that any extra money raised locally through the precept increase will be spent locally, so I am delighted that a large part of the this year’s investment will be in frontline PCSOs who will be supporting their local policing teams and providing extra reassurance for local communities.

“The apprenticeship offers appropriate accreditation and recognition for the unique skills required in 21st century policing and I am pleased to see that Sussex Police are one of the first forces to offer an apprenticeship route for PCSOs.”

Recruitment is now open for the PCSO role and closes on March 25.

Our PCSOs play a vital part in keeping Sussex safe. The PCSO role is unique. Our PCSOs are able to spend time in communities where they are needed most providing that reassurance and developing relationships to keep people safe and feeling safe.

Working alongside our local policing Prevention teams, our PCSOs help tackle local issues and, where possible, prevent them happening in the first place. They are tasked with activities which are proven to reduce crime and protect the public.

It’s a role that takes courage to tackle anti-social behaviour, compassion to be there for there for the vulnerable and professionalism to help with investigations.

By joining as a PCSO, recruits can expect a career with variety, challenges, a good starting salary, and a qualification in community policing.

For more details visit the recruitment by copying and pasting this link into your browser <https://www.sussex.police.uk/police-forces/sussex-police/areas/careers/jobs/pcsos/>

Help us keep Sussex safe

Seen something suspicious or have information about a crime or incident? Please [contact us online](#), email us at 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk or call **101**.

Alternatively you can contact the independent charity **Crimestoppers**, anonymously, on **0800 555 111**, or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org

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Links and attachments: Sussex Police will only ever link you to secure websites we trust. We will only send you attachments where we believe it is absolutely necessary.