

## PCC/OPCC Update Bulletin

### Response to Coronavirus/COVID-19

**A message from Mark** – I hope that you're all managing to stay safe and well, and have been enjoying the sunny weather whilst continuing to follow the social distancing measures.



Another bank holiday is upon us and my thoughts remain with all the key workers who are continuing to work flat out, in many cases in harm's way, in order to keep us all safe. It's important we carry on playing our role to prevent COVID-19 from spreading as the infection rates are higher within the Yorkshire and North-East region.

The Government have launched a new form in which you can nominate people for a national honour to recognise their contribution to the response to the coronavirus crisis. If you know anyone you feel should receive this recognition please visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-honours-nomination-form>

I also want to wish Eid Mubarak to all those celebrating Eid al-Fitr this weekend. The Muslim Council of Britain have released some guidance on how to stay safe whilst celebrating which is further down the bulletin too which I have been promoting on social media to get the messages out.

This week we have been supporting Mental Health Awareness Week which is even more relevant whilst we continue to pull together to fight the coronavirus pandemic impact. We've all faced unprecedented disruption to our way of life where the things we took for granted like shopping, seeing friends and family, can now be causes of stress and anxiety.

It's ok not to feel ok, and I would always urge anyone that's having a tough time to speak to someone about it, whether that's one of the many charities and voluntary organisations, a family member, friend, or a health care professional...whatever someone feels comfortable with. That being said I know it's not always that easy and that's why we all have a role in looking

out for loved ones, colleagues and members of our communities. More information on support services [can be found here](#).

This week has also seen important meetings such as the Local Criminal Justice Board, which I chair, working towards recovery strategies to tackle very challenging issues arising as a result of COVID-19 restrictions, as well as a regular meetings with the Chief Constable and the National Police Air Service (NPAS) which we host and deliver on behalf of Policing in England and Wales. I also gave another briefing update with the Chief Constable on our response to COVID19 issues to all West Yorkshire MPs via a video link call.

Monday 25 May is International Missing Children's Day which we will be supporting by raising awareness of the reasons why young people may go missing and the options for support. You can find out more information on these issues here <https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/runningaway>

This week also saw 27 people arrested as part of an operation dedicated to tackling online child sexual exploitation. These arrests by West Yorkshire Police are significant and send a strong message to would-be offenders, but there is no better outcome than preventing these crimes in the first place. Whilst West Yorkshire Police and our partners will continue to deal robustly with offenders, we can all help safeguarding against these abuses. I have set out some online safety guidance and support further on in this bulletin which I hope you will find useful.

I will now be reducing the frequency of these update bulletins, initially to every 2 weeks and then in due course back to my monthly newsletter cycle as we hopefully head back to a sense of normality. Please continue to visit my website or social media accounts if you would like more regular updates, and I am of course always contactable through the details set out further down the bulletin.

In the meantime please enjoy the bank holiday weekend and the week ahead.

Best wishes and stay safe.

**Mark Burns-Williamson OBE**  
**West Yorkshire's Police and Crime Commissioner**

## Online Safety and Safeguarding Young People

Safeguarding children is crucially important as is providing resources, support and access to further information.

Please see links to our 5 Local Safeguarding Children's Partnerships below. These sites contain advice on COVID-19, as well as resources and guidance for parents, wider communities and professionals as well as local contact details and reporting options.

- **Bradford:** <https://www.bradford.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/safeguarding-children/safeguarding-children>
- **Calderdale:** <https://safeguarding.calderdale.gov.uk/covid19>
- **Kirklees:** <https://www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk>
- **Leeds:** <https://www.leedsscp.org.uk/Home>
- **Wakefield:** <https://www.wakefieldscp.org.uk>

My office is maintaining regular contact with safeguarding partners across West Yorkshire through the Local Safeguarding Children's Partnerships (LSCPSs) who are also members of the West Yorkshire Children's Risk and Vulnerability Strategic Group. The LSCPs are made up of the Local Authority, Health and West Yorkshire Police who hold statutory responsibilities for safeguarding.

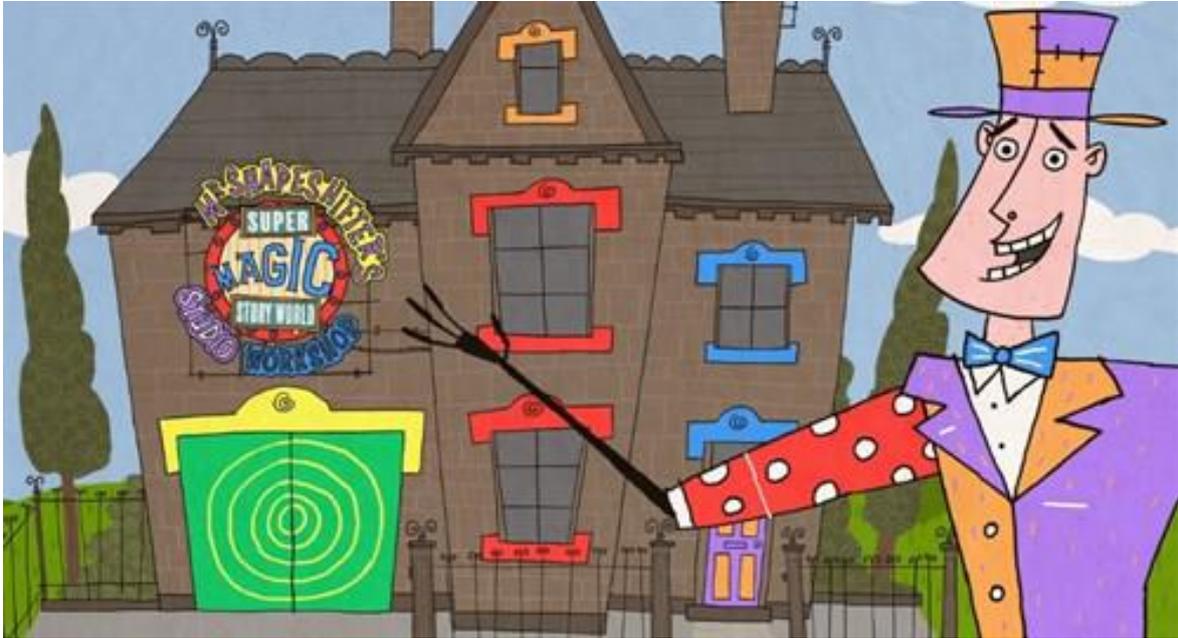
**West Yorkshire Police** have a host of information on child protection, visit: <https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/advice/child-protection>

**The National Crime Agency (NCA)** is urging children, parents and carers to ensure they are safe online and has launched a package of 15 minute educational activities to be used in home schooling. They are available on the NCA's social media platforms and the website <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>

Parents and careers may also find the below links useful:

- **Mr. Shapeshifter** – free online animation and resources for children and their parents are carers to help keep children safe online. <https://www.mrshapeshifter.com/animation>

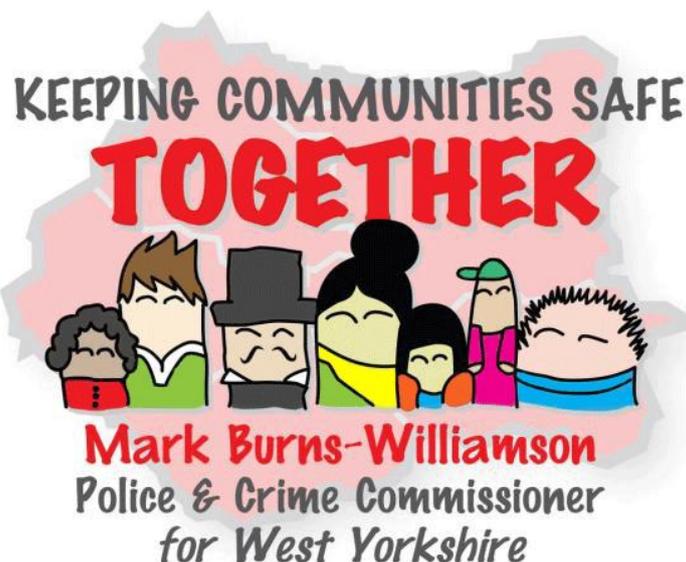
- **Healthy Relationships resource website** – an online resource library of materials for healthy relationships <http://www.healthy-relationships.co.uk>



## Guidance on celebrating Eid al-Fitr safely

The Muslim Council of Britain has released the following advice on Celebrating Eid al-Fitr safely during the Coronavirus pandemic which also includes posters <https://mcb.org.uk/general/eid-al-fitr-2020>

## Logo Competition - Youth Advisory Group



I have launched a competition for young people to design a new logo for my Youth Advisory Group (YAG). The winning designer will receive a £100 online shopping voucher and of course any young people wanting to join the YAG are more than welcome. If you know of anyone that might like to get involved in the competition or the group please do direct them to my [website](#) where they can find out more. Entries are starting to come in so please encourage any and all children and young people you know/work with to get involved.

## New funding available from Clinks to support voluntary organisations

Clinks have launched a COVID-19 response grant to support voluntary organisations working in criminal justice with an annual income under £500,000 to continue their work through the Covid-19 crisis. For more information visit <https://www.clinks.org/community/blog-posts/new-funding-available-covid-19-response-grants>

## NHS and Government Guidance



### Government and NHS Advice

For the latest health updates and guidance from the Government visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

NHS guidance can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19>

## New Government Guidance

Recently released Government guidance includes the below.

- Check if you can claim a grant through the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-a-grant-through-the-coronavirus-covid-19-self-employment-income-support-scheme>
- £37 million to support children with complex needs <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/37-million-to-support-children-with-complex-needs>
- Do you know someone that deserves a national honour for their contribution to the response to the coronavirus crisis? <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-honours-nomination-form>
- Waiting to return to the UK during coronavirus (COVID-19) <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-where-you-are-if-you-cannot-return-to-the-uk>

A full list of all Government guidance can be found here

[https://www.gov.uk/search/all?topical\\_events%5B%5D=coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response&order=updated-newest](https://www.gov.uk/search/all?topical_events%5B%5D=coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response&order=updated-newest)

## Our dedicated coronavirus webpage

Our dedicated coronavirus page on our website contains further support information, volunteering opportunities, links to help and support and much more. Recent updates include funding opportunities from the government for foodbanks and domestic abuse charities, advice on wearing and making your own facemask as well as bereavement support. You can view it here <https://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/coronavirus>

## Our latest statements

See links to recent statements below.

- **West Yorkshire Police and the PCC back calls for motorists to 'Slow Down, Save Lives'** (released 21st May) <https://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/news-events/news/west-yorkshire-police-and-pcc-back-calls-motorists-slow-down-save-lives>
- **#KindnessMatters PCC supports Mental Health Awareness Week** (released 20th May) <https://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/news->

[events/news/kindnessmatters-pcc-supports-mental-health-awareness-week](#)

## Contacting the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner

Along with the office I am currently working remotely. This means that face to face meetings at the office and elsewhere will not be taking place and we are not able to deal with correspondence posted through our letter box, either in person or by Royal Mail.

However, you can still get in touch by email [contact@westyorkshire.pcc.pnn.gov.uk](mailto:contact@westyorkshire.pcc.pnn.gov.uk) and telephone 01924 294000 in the usual manner.

