

Kent PCC News

Spring 2025

Youth Survey Results

The PCC Matthew Scott has revealed some sobering statistics about online bullying and social media.

According to his Youth and Parent Surveys, nearly 34% of primary children and 29% of secondary pupils have been bullied or picked on online.

What's more, 16% of secondary students and 14% of primary children admitted *they* had bullied, picked on or been mean to someone else online. When we asked this question in 2023 only 11.5% of youngsters said they'd done this.

Of those who'd been bullied only 46% of secondary students and 57% of primary pupils told their parents or guardians: 30% of secondary and 21% of primary children said they'd hadn't told anyone.

Matthew Scott said,

"Protecting young people has always been a priority for me as Police and Crime Commissioner. Cybercrime is increasing and it's imperative we alert youngsters to the potential hazards early. Social media is awash with pitfalls and we know as adults that it's all too easy to spend hours scrolling through our phones, forgetting everything we say and do will stay online forever."

We must talk about the problems social media, smartphones and online bullying are causing to young people. We also need to support schools in implementing smartphone policies but also educate parents about the risks of giving these devices to their children whilst they are still too young."



Youth Survey results

2025 Internet Safety Campaign

New Police and Crime Plan

Visits

To read the full results click here - [Youth Survey Results](#)



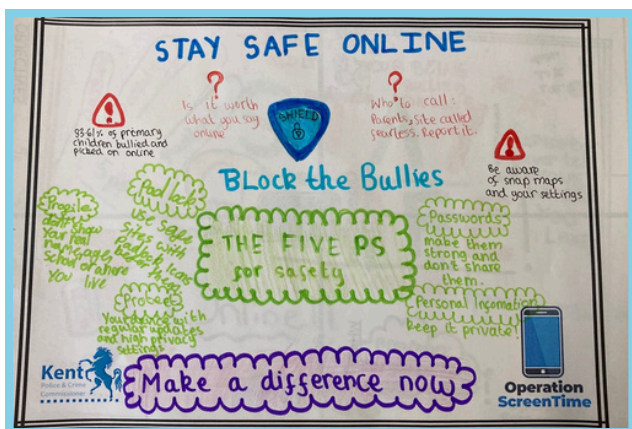
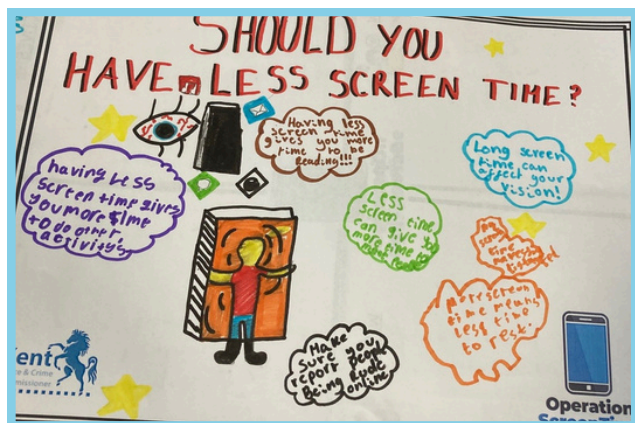
2025 Internet Safety Campaign



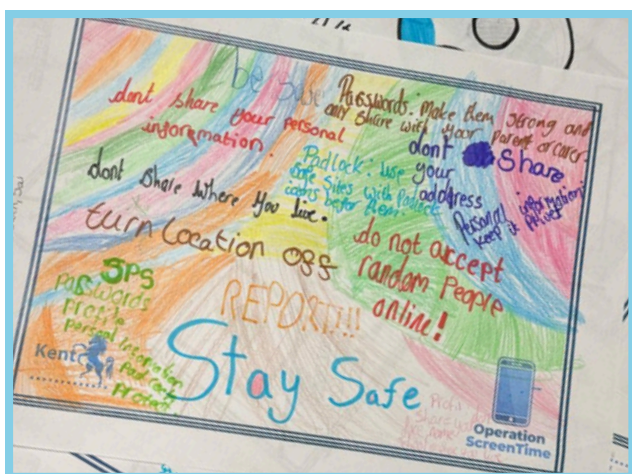
Following the results of the surveys, Matthew Scott has launched an internet safety campaign.

It aims to highlight the potential harms of smartphones, social media and other online platforms to youngsters in Year 5, 6 and 7.

The PCC is visiting local schools to highlight the issues. The youngsters are also designing posters for us and the best ones will be published on our website and on our online platforms, as well as being printed out for the schools to use.



Matthew Scott says, "I'm delighted to be hosting these sessions in our schools and have been very impressed by the posters and campaigns the pupils have produced. Here is one of the winners from Lamberhurst St. Mary's school."

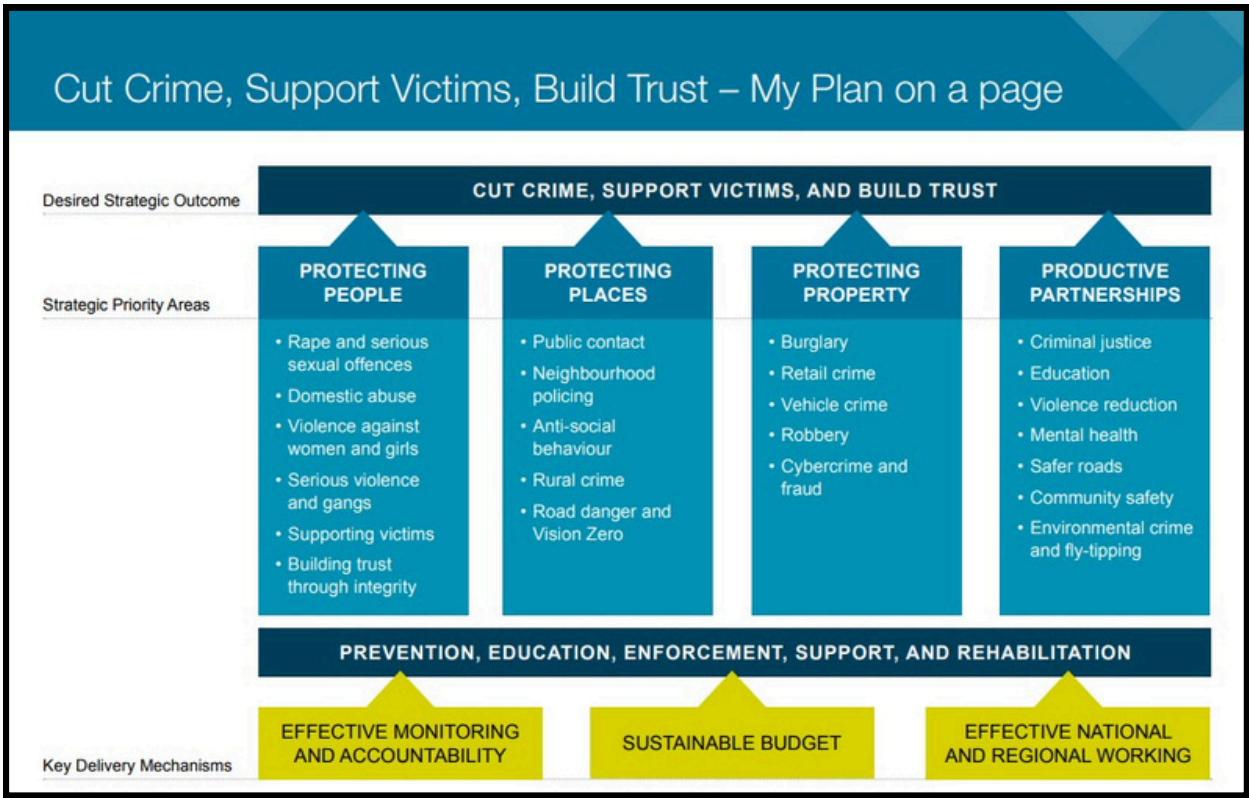


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Matthew Scott has published his four year Police and Crime Plan: titled “Cut Crime, Support Victims, Build Trust”, these are the goals he has set Kent Police going forward.

“Cut Crime, Support Victims, Build Trust is not just a title, it is the core mission for the force going forward. We have made significant progress over the last nine years, but we must continue to improve our service to the people of Kent and those unfortunate enough to become victims of crime. Victims have always been at the heart of everything I do and I will make sure the force investigates those crimes appropriately.”



To read the full plan, click here – [Kent Police and Crime Plan](#)



Visits around Kent and Medway



Interview with BBC Radio Kent



Maidstone Apprenticeship Fair



In Maidstone speaking to members of Kent's business crime reduction partnerships



Out in Tunbridge Wells with the beat officers on hotspot patrol



Congratulations to the 73 recruits who had their "Passing Out Parade"



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