

## scamwiseNI PARTNERSHIP

### Stopping Scams

You may have heard about ScamwiseNI which aims to help people spot the signs of scams. Scams affect the lives of millions of people across the UK and particularly older people who often experience loneliness, shame and social isolation.

Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP has delivered a Friends Against Scams training session to a group of older people and their representatives. Working in partnership with Trading Standards and ABC Seniors Network, Friends Against Scams is a National Trading Standards initiative, which aims to protect and prevent people from becoming victims of scams by empowering them to 'Take a Stand Against Scams'.

For more information on scams, how to avoid being scammed and what to do if you think you have been a victim, go to [www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/scamwiseNI](http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/scamwiseNI)

#### Disclaimer

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this document, the Northern Ireland Policing Board and the Department of Justice will not be held liable for any inaccuracies that may be contained within.

Get in touch...

Keep up to date with your PCSP

To find out more about what PCSPs are doing, connect with them on:



[www.pcsp.org](http://www.pcsp.org)

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# POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS (PCSPs) – HOW THEY WORK FOR OLDER PEOPLE



**Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs) help make communities safer and ensure that the voices of local people are heard on policing and community safety issues. With crime and fear of crime a major concern for many older people, PCSPs have focussed their attention on programmes to address that. Read on to find out what they've been doing...**



### **Alert to your concerns**

An innovative text alert service which sends community safety information quickly and effectively has been launched by the PCSPs and PSNI in Causeway Coast & Glens and Mid & East Antrim.

Quick access to important information can make a positive difference to older people, especially those living in isolated areas or vulnerable to bogus callers.

If you register with the free service, you can get information texted straight to your mobile phones and be alerted to issues such as burglaries, nearby road accidents or even an upcoming Neighbourhood Watch meeting. It doesn't require an internet connection or knowledge of social media, so it's not complicated to use.

To find out more about the Text Alert service contact the PCSPs involved.

### **Look out for your Neighbourhood Watch**

Neighbourhood Watch schemes are operated by PCSPs with local police and give you the opportunity to influence the safety of your neighbourhood and to reduce the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.

It is one of the largest and most well-known crime prevention initiatives and anyone can get involved, which means you can play your part in helping the police reduce crime.

To find out more about your district's scheme contact your local PCSP.



### **Christmas cheers for crime prevention and safety**

The annual Belfast PCSP Christmas Crime Prevention and Safety event gets bigger and better each year and has led the way for a number of similar events throughout other Council areas.

While the message mainly focuses on keeping safe over Christmas by making the house secure and safe shopping online, over 1000 people from across Belfast are provided with free practical advice, information and support on a range of crime prevention and safety issues with input from organisations and charities including Age NI, Lifeline and the Good Morning Service.



### **Targeting crime and the fear of crime**

Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP has been tackling crime and the fear of crime by offering residents over 60 a comprehensive home security assessment through the Community Crime Alert Project.

A coordinator will come to your home to evaluate how secure your home is and recommend measures to tighten security. Depending on what you need, they can make referrals to other agencies and will give out a free home security starter pack.

The coordinator will also give presentations to groups and communities on crime prevention.



### **Steering pensioners in the right direction**

Derry & Strabane PCSP is supporting an Older Drivers Awareness Enhancement Project, a workshop designed to improve driving skills and safety and increase confidence among drivers over the age of 60. A similar project is also being run by Newry, Mourne & Down PCSP.



### **Widespread action**

Similar schemes to benefit older citizens are operated across the PCSP regions. Newry, Mourne & Down PCSP's Home Secure programme means someone will call to your home, work out your individual needs and provide the free fitting of security equipment.

Mid & East Antrim PCSP support the Agewell Partnership's Feel Safe and Sound programme which has seen the installation of over 200 TrueCall devices to block nuisance calls. The Partnership also makes referrals for home security checks and the necessary equipment, fitting and information.

Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP provided 150 social alarm systems to elderly and vulnerable people. The systems provide an alarm unit and pendant which are linked via phone to a centre where 24/7 monitoring is provided.

**These are just some of the examples of how your PCSP can help you. To find out what else is happening in your area and how you can get involved, contact your local PCSP.**

