Happy 20th Anniversary PCSOs

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS

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PCSO
20
CELEBRATE
PROTECT

This year, Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) celebrate 20 years of delivering neighbourhood policing. The PCSO role was created by the 2002 Police Reform Act and since that time PCSOs have more than proved their worth.

UNISON is the union for PCSOs. We hope that you, and all other MPs, Senedd Members, Chief Constables, Police and Crime Commissioners, Council Leaders and Elected Mayors in England and Wales, will join us to celebrate the success of PCSOs in delivering local policing over the last 20 years.

PCSOs provide a highly visible police presence. They deter anti-social behaviour, provide reassurance, gather intelligence and work with businesses, schools and statutory partners to keep communities safe. PCSOs are a force for good.

People love PCSOs' visibility, their in-depth knowledge of local areas and their approachability. The PCSO role attracted the highest ever proportion of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic new joiners to policing. Put simply, PCSOs are key to maintaining public confidence in policing.

Despite their success, PCSO numbers in England have been cut by 45% since 2010. In Wales, by contrast, the Welsh Government has invested in additional PCSOs, showing very clearly that where there is political will, neighbourhood policing can be actively grown.

So, on this anniversary, UNISON is asking you to commit to support the PCSO workforce for the next 20 years. This will need extra funding to increase PCSO numbers in England. UNISON is calling for an additional 7,600 PCSO posts here to replace those lost since 2010.

By rebuilding the PCSO workforce in England, and by continuing the high level of support in Wales, the police service and the communities it serves have everything to gain.

PCSO 20

CELEBRATE PROTECT

Photo credits: Ralph Hodgson and Natasha Hirst

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Sent on behalf of our PCSO members

For more information please visit
unison.org.uk/pcso20

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