



**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER: Edition 29 – SPRING/SUMMER 2025**

## CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS SUCCESS AT RECENT AWARDS

Causeway Coast and Glens Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) and Age Concern Causeway triumphed at the recent PSNI Problem-Solving awards for two innovative initiatives which are now being used across the Borough and beyond.



The PCSP Don't Worry be Appy project picked up 2nd place in the PSNI category of the awards. This online safety resource was developed by the PCSP in partnership with the Northern and Western Health and Social Care Trusts, NSPCC, PSNI and Education Authority.

The adaptable resource, which can be used as a series or as stand-alone lessons, covers five topics: Suicide, Mental Health and Self-esteem, Online Bullying, Gaming and Gambling, Sharing and receiving inappropriate images and where to go for support. The resource has been in use across the Borough for over a year now and has

received fantastic feedback from teachers and youth workers alike.

While it is nice to get recognition from awards like these, more importantly, they help promote these resources, ensuring that any school, community group or youth club facilitator who isn't already aware of them can get in touch and avail of this free resource to help keep young people safer online. For more information, please contact [pcsp@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk](mailto:pcsp@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk)

Also recognised for its fantastic work was one of the PCSP small £999 recipients. Age Concern Causeway won 3rd place in the community award for their first of its kind Dementia Safeguarding Scheme. The scheme encourages carers, family, and friends to provide useful information which can be used in the event of a person with dementia going missing or who needs assistance. Not only does this increase

dementia awareness but reduces the risks for those living with dementia when out and about, it enables them to remain active members of the community and provides peace of mind for loved ones. For more information or to register and avail of the FREE wristband via the Age Concern Causeway website: <https://accaseway.org>

If your community group wishes to apply for a small grant for a local project, applications will open again on 1st April 2025. Do not hesitate to contact PCSP staff at [pcsp@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk](mailto:pcsp@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk) for more information.



**To find out more about setting up a Neighbourhood watch scheme in your area, or for further information on Neighbourhood Watch email: [pcsp@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk](mailto:pcsp@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk) or call 028 703 47034 or speak with your local PSNI Officer.**

# MESSAGE FROM PCSP CHAIRPERSON CLLR BRENDA CHIVERS



I hope you find the latest edition of our Causeway Coast and Glens Neighbourhood watch newsletter to be informative and helpful. This edition aims to introduce Superintendent Sinead McIlldowney as new District Commander for Causeway Coast and Glens as well as providing useful information and key contact updates (back page).

Over the last few months, PCSP members have been acutely aware of the public feelings relating to personal safety. We as a partnership are always mindful that prevention is better than cure and have an action plan which aims to minimize crime and opportunities for crime. The balance is never easy with conflicting resource pressures. However we are proud to know from your feedback that our projects are helping you feel safer, such as:

1. Our crime prevention roadshows, member engagement and support of the COAST

safe home scheme and winter wellbeing events which have provided members of the public with essential safety equipment such as personal alarms.

2. Our educational programmes, such as building healthy relationships delivered by Women's Aid, Last Orders and our disability hate crime and cyber safety projects, which all aim to help encourage our younger citizens to: recognise the red flags of unhealthy relationships, challenge attitudes such as misogyny, encouraging everyone to be active bystanders and how to access support.
3. Our small £999 grants programme has enabled so many community groups and organisations to develop and deliver worthwhile projects which provide 'local solutions to local problems'.

One of these small grant applicants, we are proud to say, became a recipient of a PSNI Problem-Solving award (Community

Category) this year. Age Concern and partners picked up 3rd place for their Dementia wristbands. The PCSP couldn't be prouder to have supported this initiative and so many others that are making differences across the Causeway Coast and Glens and beyond.

Another successful initiative awarded 2nd place in the PCSP category of the PSNI Problem Solving Awards was our very own Don't Worry Be #appy Internet Safety project, so congratulations to our team and all the partners involved.

I believe in a world that can appear very frightening, it's important to remember to look for the good and I'm sure you will agree that there is a lot of good work happening.

If you wish to find out more about projects, grants or contact any of our PCSP members, please do not hesitate to contact us by emailing [pcsp@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk](mailto:pcsp@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk)

**Cllr Brenda Chivers**  
PCSP Vice Chairperson

## ROMANCE SCAMS

**Fraudsters can strike at any time of the year, and they don't care about gender, sexuality, age or race. They target everyone.**

Cruelly, romance fraud is one of many ways criminals will seek to steal your money, which is why it's important you are aware of what signs to look out for to keep your money safe.

Chair of ScamwiseNI Partnership, Superintendent Joanne Gibson says: "Many people use social media and dating sites to find love and meet new people and, while in many cases, situations are safe and legitimate, there are, unfortunately, criminals who take advantage of this and go to great lengths to build a fake relationship. Their sole aim is stealing people's money.

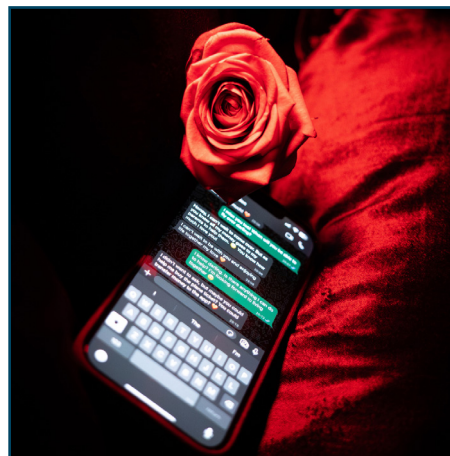
"Fraudsters seek to build a relationship of trust quickly before requesting money. Initially, they'll appear charming and come across as being really interested in you, but they'll have multiple excuses for not being able to meet face-to-face. They'll hint at financial troubles and start asking for money to help them sort out their problems by playing on their emotions. For example, pay for medical or legal bills, help a family

member or to help pay for travel, or some sort of investment opportunity. They'll promise to repay the money, but have no intention of doing so.

"This is a despicable type of crime which, we believe, is under-reported because people feel embarrassed. We hope by raising awareness of this type of fraud, people will know the signs to look out for and feel empowered to stop fraudsters taking their money. We also encourage anyone who has lost money in this type of fraud to report it. Do not feel ashamed - help and support is available."

### Stay safe online

Stay on the app - Always keep communication on the dating website or app you're using. Many have inbuilt security and assistance.



They also take steps to remove and ban fake accounts so you're safer there. Fraudsters will also try to get you to chat or text away from the dating site or app you first met them on. This allows them to keep in contact if their profile is deleted for being fake.

Check their socials - Carry out your own research on the person, checking their social media presence to see if it matches what's on the dating site. Looking at key details such as name, location and family members can help identify inconsistencies in what you have been told.

Check their photo - Profile pictures can be deceiving and be taken from anywhere on the internet. You can use various websites to check photos using a reverse image search to prove if the photo is valid.

If you're looking for friendship, companionship or love online, it should never start with being asked for money and, if it does, it's not a friend or relationship worth having.

For further advice and information visit [www.nidirect.gov.uk/scamwiseNI](http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/scamwiseNI) or the ScamwiseNI Facebook page @scamwiseNI. You can also call Action Fraud via [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or call 0300 123 2040 or police on the non-emergency number 101 or make a report online via <https://www.psnipolice.uk/report>. If you have lost money in this way, report it to your bank immediately.





# MEET DISTRICT COMMANDER FOR CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS

The Police Service of Northern Ireland is delighted to announce that Superintendent Sinead McIlldowney has recently taken up post as the new District Commander for Causeway Coast and Glens.

Superintendent McIlldowney is very much looking forward to continuing the excellent partnership work that is ongoing across the District, and brings her experience in Neighbourhood Policing, District Policing and Operational Planning and to an already fantastic and committed team.

With over 21 years of experience in policing, the senior officer brings with her a wealth of strategic and operational policing knowledge. Most recently, Sinead was a Chief Inspector for Performance in Causeway Coast and Glens, before taking up her role as District Commander.

Superintendent McIlldowney said: "I have enjoyed a long career in policing and I'm fortunate to have spent that time working in a variety of roles across different areas of the service and in different Districts.

"No area or day is the same, but community policing is of upmost importance and I am delighted to have been appointed as the new District Commander for Causeway Coast and Glens, an area I am familiar with both professionally and personally.

"Since I took up the role in August, I have been struck by how extremely motivated and hardworking all our staff in District are, working to tackle issues that matter to the communities they serve. Staff work in roles that can be extremely demanding, but there are great working relationships that have been formed, and I want to contribute towards that to continue to build on what has already been achieved here in the District.

"My current priorities for the District, are to work to deliver against the Local and Service Policing Plans in order to make the District a safer place for everyone to live, work and visit. Through close partnerships which include our local PCSP, we can share knowledge, experience and expertise to address community concerns so we can keep people safe.

"We have a very few busy months ahead, hosting local and international events in 2025, which is not only exciting for policing but for our borough. These events will require a lot of local policing support, so I will be engaging with our partners, community groups and local representatives, to not



only discuss emerging concerns but to work strategically in partnership, to find long-lasting solutions to issues that are impacting local communities the most.

"I very much look forward to meeting all involved and those within our local communities who I hope I can provide great support to."

## ROAD SAFETY REMINDER

You may have seen our PCSP road safety signs outside schools throughout the Borough. These signs are the average height of a Primary One pupil and are there to remind drivers to slow down and be aware of their surroundings.

Remember to put EVERYONE's safety before speed and parking : Leave enough time for your journey and plan ahead.



# USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Contact Name	Rank	Role	Station	Mobile No.	email
Sinead McIlDowney	Superintendent	District Commander	Coleraine	07890021176	sinead.mcildowney@psni.police.uk
Yvonne McManus	T/Chief Inspector	Chief Inspector	Coleraine	0789002235	yvonne.mcmanus@psni.police.uk
Siobhan Watt	T/Chief Inspector	Chief Inspector	Coleraine	07812481671	siobhan.watt@psni.police.uk
Stephen Burns	Inspector	District Support Team	Coleraine	07500900561	stephen.burns2@psni.police.uk
Bjorn O'Brien	Inspector	Neighbourhood Policing Team	Coleraine	07826866254	bjorn.o'brien@psni.police.uk
Diane Roxborough	Inspector	Neighbourhood Policing Team	Limavady	07825221631	diane.roxborough@psni.police.uk
Paul McGillan	T/Inspector	Local Policing Team – A	Coleraine/Limavady	07920186765	paul.mcgillan@psni.police.uk
Richard Jack	Inspector	Local Policing Team – B	Coleraine/Limavady	07786888384	richard.jack@psni.police.uk
Colin Hamilton	Inspector	Local Policing Team – C	Coleraine/Limavady	07557261886	colin.hamilton@psni.police.uk
Adrian Brogan	T/Inspector	Local Policing team – D	Coleraine/Limavady	07769677636	adrian.brogan@psni.police.uk
David Armour	Inspector	Local Policing Team – E	Coleraine/Limavady	07500905440	david.armour@psni.police.uk
Wendy Nixon	Sergeant	Community Planning	Coleraine	07816350828	wendy.nixon@psni.police.uk
Ian Ferriby	Sergeant	Neighbourhood Policing Team	Coleraine	07917357831	ian.ferriby@psni.police.uk
Deborah Smyth	Sergeant	Neighbourhood Policing Team	Rural	07747625914	deborah.smyth3@psni.police.uk
Wendy McConnell	Sergeant	Neighbourhood Policing Team	Rural	07816350828	wendy.mcconnell@psni.police.uk

## Other Useful Numbers



**IN AN EMERGENCY CALL – Call 999**

**NEW SERVICE: 999BSL** for deaf/hearing impaired

Download the 999BSL app or open the webpage [999bsl.co.uk](http://999bsl.co.uk)

- Press the red button 'Call 999 BSL now'
- Connect to an interpreter

**PSNI non emergency number – 101**

**Crimestoppers – 0800 555 111**

**24 Hours Domestic & Sexual Violence Helpline – 0808 802 1414**

**Causeway and Mid Ulster Women's Aid – 028 703 56573**

**Foyle Women's Aid – 028 714 16800**

**Crime Prevention Officer – 07764 638 397**

**Childline – 0800 1111**

**Action Fraud – 0300 123 2040**

**Victim Support NI – 028 713 70086**



## Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP

Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP would like to hear your view on any aspect of Policing and Community Safety;

**Coleraine:** Cloonavin, 66 Portstewart Road, BT52 1EY  
**Ballymoney:** Riada House, 14 Charles Street, BT53 6DZ  
**Ballycastle:** Sheskburn House, 7 Mary Street, BT54 6QH  
**Email:** [pcsp@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk](mailto:pcsp@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk) 028 703 47034

Further information on the PCSP and its members can be found:  
[www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/live/policing-and-community-safety-partnership](http://www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/live/policing-and-community-safety-partnership)

**All information stated is correct at time of print and is subject to change.**



**THIS NEWSLETTER IS SUPPORTED BY THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD AND THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.**

**With thanks to PSNI for providing information in this leaflet.**

