

PCSO Craig Holmes

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Craig Holmes became a PCSO in 2009. After a brief hiatus in 2016, he returned a year later and is now based at Snig Hill in Sheffield. With applications to be a PCSO now open, we sat down with Craig to find out more...

What’s it like being a PCSO in the city centre?

C: I look after Bramall Lane, which is a diverse area. There’s also plenty of student accommodation so new people come and go every year. A lot around what I do is speaking to students about crime prevention advice and working with local businesses.

This month, we’re celebrating 20 years of PCSOs. What do you enjoy most about the role?

C: Being out in the community. When you are there, it’s that little bit of reassurance for people. They feel safer. You work to find long term support for those who need it.

I once worked with an elderly woman who was experiencing anti-social behaviour around her home. The woman hadn’t reported it, but it was affecting her so much she attempted to take her own life.



From then on, I visited her daily, identified the youths involved and linked in with a housing association about providing additional security measures near her property [eg, CCTV]. Those involved were all spoken to and after two months, the offending stopped. I was able to gradually reduce my visits, and we are still on great terms now if I ever see her. She’ll always come over and say hello!

What’s your typical day like?

C: The first thing to do when you start your shift is self-brief. So I look at what’s happened in the past 24 hours, what incidents need to be attended, and whether I need to issue crime prevention advice to people. Then I’d go to any affected areas and do patrols to ensure visibility, speak to residents and businesses. I also tend to do a lot of engagement stalls or go to community meetings. It’s important people know where and when they can see you.

Tonight, I’m off to a tenant meeting to hear what the residents have to say and discuss what I’ve been doing about the issues they raised at the last meeting.

What does the future hold for you?

C: I enjoy being a PCSO and I’m really happy where I am. I’ve applied to be a tutor to mentor our new recruits and I hope my experience will be beneficial to them.

If you’re good at getting know people, and you want to put your time in to helping people and solving problems, you should consider applying!

We are expanding our PCSO team and applications are open now. Visit our website to find out more.