



**POLICE  
BRAVERY  
AWARDS**

**MORE DETAILS ON PAGE 4**





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# Police and public being failed by lack of funding

BY DARREN HARRIS, CHAIR OF SUFFOLK POLICE FEDERATION

Welcome to the latest edition of the Suffolk Police Federation members' magazine.

The latest uplift figures in April showed we now have a record number of police officers in England and Wales – more than at any point in history. And with 1,100 colleagues in Suffolk, our numbers are now higher than in 2010.

This is cause for much celebration. With more officers we can fight crime more effectively and we can ensure through strength in numbers that police officers are less exposed. However, of course that is not the end of the story.

The Policing Education Qualifications Framework (PEQF) means the Force and the communities we serve are not yet fully feeling the benefits of the uplift. We are seeing a constant drain on teams due to the abstractions necessary for student officer training. As fast as our new recruits join a team or department, they are taken away again.

And keeping hold of our new recruits will be a challenge with pay and conditions a huge factor when it comes to attrition rates. The Government must make a solid commitment on future pay and conditions or the retention crisis will just get worse.

As a sign of this, at its National Council meeting in June, the Federation voted to ballot members on whether the organisation should pursue industrial rights on behalf of its membership. The National Board will now explore what industrial rights could mean for our members.

There was also concerning mood music coming from Downing Street with the Prime Minister warning of 'unpopular decisions' about public sector pay as he tries to bring down inflation.

But, in the end, officers have been given a seven per cent pay rise, which while below the 17 per cent the Federation had pushed for, is perhaps better than we expected.



Our claim was based on the need to help redress the balance after more than a decade of real-terms pay cuts for policing.

But we have all had to take into account the current cost of living crisis, with everyone feeling the pinch and some of our own members struggling with soaring food prices, household bills and rising mortgage repayments.

Our pay has been lagging behind other workers for too long and we will continue to press for years of below inflation rises to be taken into account when officers' pay is considered again.

So, as I said at the outset, it is great news that our numbers are returning to pre-austerity levels but until our pay review process is properly overhauled our celebrations will be muted.

On a happier note, I am delighted to congratulate PCs Craig Cullen and Ryan Butters who represented the Force at the annual Police Bravery Awards in London on 13 July.

They exemplify the sort of courageous and selfless acts we see from our colleagues in Suffolk every day. Of course, they don't see the fuss. To them, they were just doing their job. And that makes their bravery all the more remarkable. You can read how Craig and Ryan got on at the bravery awards on Pages 4 and 5.

I hope you enjoy the edition and remember, if you are in difficulty or in need of advice, we are always here for you.

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# Officers do Suffolk proud at Police Bravery Awards

**Two Suffolk Police officers who prevented an armed robbery at a betting shop have represented the Force at the national Police Bravery Awards 2023.**

PCs Craig Cullen and Ryan Butters were invited to Number 10 Downing Street before attending a glittering awards ceremony in London in the evening alongside fellow nominees from across England and Wales.

The pair were recognised for their actions in arresting the suspect who had threatened shop staff at the Coral bookmakers in Sudbury last June with what appeared to be a revolver.

He brandished the weapon in the face of the cashiers and asked if they “wished to die” before demanding money from the tills. The two officers found him waving around the weapon in a busy town centre street.

They were put forward for the award by Suffolk Police Federation with branch secretary Ben Hudson accompanying them to the awards ceremony.



Ryan was joined by his partner Hannah at the awards and the Force's Temporary Assistant Chief Constable Eamonn Bridger also attended the ceremony.

“It was an honour to accompany Craig and Ryan to the awards ceremony and to see their brave actions recognised. Like so many police officers, without thought for their own safety, they walked towards danger when others would turn away,” said Ben.

“The bravery awards highlight police officers’ commitment to serving and protecting their communities. All the nominees are always keen to point out that they were simply doing their job, but it is a job like no other and their selfless acts and dedication to duty should be recognised throughout the year, not just at the annual awards ceremony.”

The Suffolk nominees were put forward in the awards' Region 4 category which was won by Nottinghamshire's Sergeant Dan Griffin and PC Amy Pannell who apprehended an enraged knifeman who had stabbed one of them multiple times.

The overall winners on the night were from West Midlands Police – 14 officers who risked their lives to



At the awards ceremony are (left to right) Temporary ACC Eamonn Bridger, Hannah, PC Ryan Butters, PC Craig Cullen and Ben Hudson, secretary of Suffolk Police Federation.

pull four children from a frozen river in December and perform CPR, though sadly the youngsters could not be saved.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak paid tribute to all the officers who were nominated at the 28th Annual Police Bravery Awards, sponsored by Police Mutual.

He said: "I am acutely aware of the pivotal role that the police play in our society. We depend on officers to fight crime and keep us safe. This is public service of the most noble kind and everyone working in policing has my enduring gratitude and admiration."

National Federation chair Steve Hartshorn said of the nominees:

**"Their commitment to the role and extraordinary sense of duty is incredible, as they will humbly tell you they have carried out these selfless acts because this is what they are supposed to do. Their actions of going above and beyond the call of duty is truly inspiring."**

The national Police Bravery Awards were held in London on 13 July 2023.



National Federation chair Steve Hartshorn welcomes the Home Secretary to the awards.



Steve Hartshorn, national Federation chair, addresses the audience.



Home Secretary Suella Braverman praised officers in her speech at the bravery awards ceremony.



Home Secretary Suella Braverman is pictured with all the nominees in the garden of No 10.

# Government confirms seven per cent rise in police officer pay

Police officers are to receive pay rises of seven per cent across all ranks after the Government accepted the recommendations of the Police Remuneration Review Body (PRRB).

The offer is well short of the 17 per cent claim issued by the Police Federation and the Government's decision to rule out extra borrowing to fund the pay increases amid fears of stoking inflation could mean more cuts to existing services.

The current level of CPI inflation is running at 8.7 per cent and Prime Minister Rishi Sunak - who has promised to cut it to around 5.3 per cent by the end of the year - wants to avoid increases which could fuel a wage-price spiral.

Announcing the pay rise on 13 July, Chancellor Jeremy Hunt told MPs it was "important to deliver on the Prime Minister's priority to get debt falling and to control borrowing to avoid adding inflationary pressures and risk prolonging higher inflation".

He said: **"That means taking difficult but responsible decisions on the public finances, including public sector pay, because more borrowing is itself inflationary."**

Chief Secretary to the Treasury John Glen said the police pay rise would be partly covered by increasing the cost of certain visas by up to 20 per cent to create more funding for border forces, allowing the Home Office to divert some money towards police officer pay.

Responding to the announcement, Suffolk Police Federation chair Darren Harris said: "A seven per cent offer is a good deal under the current economic climate but this falls short of what we had asked for and is still below the rate of inflation so there are mixed feelings. "The uplift will help members who are facing soaring household bills and rising prices linked to the cost of living

crisis but it once again fails to address the many years of low and zero per cent pay awards and real-term cuts.

"But we would describe it as a step in the right direction and it is certainly the best pay rise we have seen for a long time."

National Federation chair Steve Hartshorn said: "I have no doubt that police officers will have mixed feelings - on the one hand, they will be pleased that the pay award was not as bad as some media outlets had speculated, but also disappointed that it doesn't fully take account of inflation, as they and their families struggle with

increased utility, mortgage and food costs.

"We will continue to push for fair pay awards that take full account of inflation and recognise and reward the unique status of police officers; including the introduction of a fair, independent mechanism and negotiation process, so that we can properly sit down with government and employers to negotiate pay settlements that fully consider the risks and restrictions placed on police officers' private and professional lives. The focus going forward needs to be on pay restoration."



Suffolk Police Federation chair Darren Harris.

# Minister launches passionate defence of policing

Government minister Johnny Mercer's passionate defence of policing on national breakfast television has been welcomed by Suffolk Police Federation.

Mr Mercer, the Plymouth MP and veterans' minister, told viewers of Good Morning Britain that the country should take pride in its police service and the thousands of officers who serve and protect their communities.

He said one-off incidents should not be taken out of context after reports a PCSO apparently failed to respond to a member of the public's calls for assistance.

He said: "I am an extremely strong supporter of the police. You hear of these incidents but you have to bear it in the context of the hundreds of thousands of amazing police officers who every day go out and work in their communities, who prevent crime, who run towards danger, who put themselves in personal danger - often unarmed - in order to save lives and protect the public."

Mr Mercer acknowledged recent scandals had knocked public confidence in policing and said senior officers would accept there were serious issues that needed addressing.

He said: "Nobody can gloss over the problems there have been in the police and these have been found out by professional bodies over a sustained period of time.

"But we have to look at this realistically and be honest and the honest truth is the vast majority of police officers serve their communities in a manner in which we should take exceptional pride. They are exceptionally brave.

"I would never discourage anyone against going to the police. If you look at the odds, you can almost guarantee that you are going to get an outstanding service."

The minister warned of a growing trend to be critical of the police service and hold it in a negative light.

He said: "I think it has become slightly unfashionable for people to stand up for these people who get out of bed every morning and try to do right by their communities and try to uphold the law.

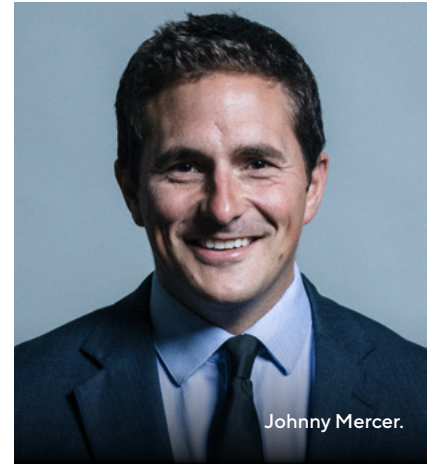
**"It has become more fashionable to highlight the minority and the tiny percentage of cases that go horribly wrong. I think these people are incredible, I think they do an exceptional service to the British public."**

Suffolk Federation chair Darren Harris said in response:

"As one of the few MPs who has served his country in uniform, it's pleasing to hear Mr Mercer speaking up for policing. There are issues in policing which we're working hard to address.

"However, the overwhelming majority of officers go to work every day and do a fantastic job with pride and with purpose. They run towards danger and put themselves in harm's way to protect innocent people.

"Those actions often go unheralded and unreported, so it's pleasing to hear a Government minister talking to the nation to highlight the great work we do."



Johnny Mercer.

## Officers and families benefit from bereavement counselling



Police officers, staff and their families will be able to access extra bereavement counselling after tragic events.

The support is the result of a partnership between the National Police Wellbeing Service (NPWS), Oscar Kilo, and charity Just 'B' to provide police forces with specialist bereavement counselling services.

Ben Hudson, secretary of Suffolk Police Federation said: "We are a police family, and the loss of a colleague really hits home. It's important to us as the local Federation, that our members and their families are supported so we welcome this new service and will be doing our bit to raise awareness."

If a police officer or a member of police staff dies in the execution of their duty, or by suicide, then forces

would provide support for the person's family, and their immediate work colleagues, and can now also make a referral to Just 'B'.

The counselling is free to police forces, with the cost being covered by the NPWS.

A counsellor will be allocated to each staff member, family member or bereaved family and work alongside them as they process and learn to manage their grief.

Members who feel they might benefit from speaking to a mental health counsellor can speak to their Federation rep about being referred to our Welfare Support Programme.

# Officers join families for COPS Service of Remembrance



COPS founder Christine Fulton addresses the service.

**The eight officers to have lost their lives in the 12 months since the last Care of Police Survivors (COPS) Service of Remembrance were read out at this year's service at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire at the end of July.**

The service was attended by around 300 members of the families of fallen officers as well as officers of all ranks. "The COPS service is one of the key events of the policing year," says Ben Hudson, secretary of Suffolk Police Federation, "This year's was the 20th annual service and once again put the focus clearly on the families left behind by our fallen colleagues and the critical peer support that COPS offers them.

"A key feature of the service is the personal testimonies of those family members – this year, a wife, a sister and daughter – all of whom gave personal accounts of their loss and the way in which COPS had helped them."

Ahead of the service, those attending welcomed the arrival of

the Blue Knights, the world's largest law enforcement motorcycle club and supporter of COPS from the time of the charity's launch.

Minutes later, cyclists from the Police Unity Tour made up of chapters from forces across England and Wales, made their way into the arboretum to applause from the crowd.

The cyclists set off from their home force areas on the Friday, heading for Drayton Manor near Tamworth on Saturday to be greeted by the families of fallen officers. They then cycled together to the arboretum on the Sunday morning for the last leg of their journey.

The remembrance service was opened by Christine Fulton, co-founder of COPS and the charity's

life vice-president.

She talked about the dark days that followed the death of her husband of two years in Glasgow in 1994. PC Lewis Fulton was just 28 when he was stabbed to death as he sought to detain a knifeman who had already injured a police sergeant.

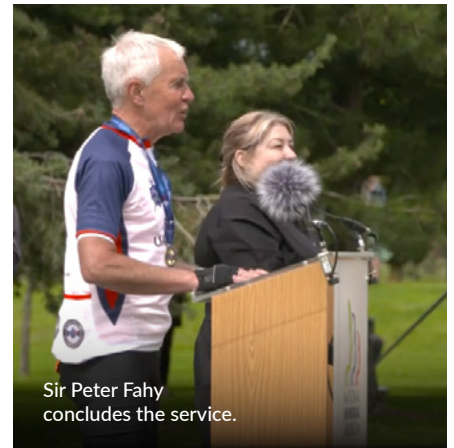
But her life changed when retired police officer Jim McNulty encouraged her to attend a COPS service in America.

Thinking it would be an 'interesting holiday', she was unprepared for the impact the trip to the States would have on her and recalled that it was the first time she had found herself in a room full of people who understood how she felt which lifted a huge weight off her shoulders.





Wreaths laid in remembrance.



Sir Peter Fahy concludes the service.

Realising how valuable that support would have been if she had received it at the start of her grieving process, Christine wrote to all chief constables when she returned to the UK seeking support to start a similar organisation but was largely told that it was a 'dreadful idea' and that families did not want to remember their loss, but wanted to forget.

Undeterred, Christine forged ahead, telling the service that she expected 34 survivors to attend the first event, but 64 turned up.

Peer support, she explained, was at the heart of the charity, adding that 300 family members were at this year's service.

The family weekend could be life-changing and life affirming, said Christine.

"It proves you can move forward but you don't leave your officer behind," she added, "They are always with you. They are part of you, and always will be."

Caroline Cox, younger sister of Inspector Mark Estall of Essex Police who died on 5 January 2017, talked about the positive impact COPS had on her life, describing it as 'an incredible charity'.

She began by thanking all the PUT riders.

"You will never know how much it means to us," said Caroline on behalf of fallen officers' families, "To us, it means everything."

In a similar vein, Katy McMurray, daughter of PC Alan McMurray of Lothian and Borders Police who died on 4 February 2006, when she

was just two, talked about how the charity had helped her.

Katy recalled how meeting other children who had lost a police officer parent through COPS had helped her process her emotions and access support when she needed it.

The service also included music from the West Midlands Police Band, songs from vocalist Diane Whyllie and an address from Gill Marshall, the COPS national president.

Gill read out the roll of honour which included the names of officers who had died since last year's COPS service:

**PC Daniel Golding** of the Metropolitan Police who died on 18 August 2022

**PCSO Daniel Gower** of Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary who died on 23 November

**PS Steven Creal** of Sussex Police who died on 21 December

**PC Richard Kemp** of Lancashire Constabulary who died on 27 December 2022

**PC Bruce Lister** of Hertfordshire Police who died on 30 January 2023

**PC Neil Pattinson** of Northumbria Police who died on 27 February

**PC Andy Boardman** of West Mercia Police who died on 11 April

**Inspector Gareth Earp** of Dyfed Powys Police who died on 29 June.

Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Office of the Lieutenancy, the High Sheriff's Office, the Home Office, the Association of Police

and Crime Commissioners, His Majesty's Inspectorate of Fire & Rescue Services, the National Police Chiefs' Council, Blue Light, the Police Unity Tour, the National Memorial Arboretum and COPS.

As Sir Peter Fahy, chair of the COPS trustees, prepared to close the service, having took part in the PUT, the National Police Air Service helicopter, flew over and performed a 'bow' to the congregation.

Families and other guests then made their way to The Beat – the avenue of trees dedicated to each force and to some individual officers – to lay red roses and wreaths.

## CALLING ALL CYCLISTS

Suffolk officers are being urged to consider taking part in next year's Police Unity Tour to help raise funds for the Care of Police Survivors (COPS) charity.

"The COPS Service of Remembrance service really does highlight how the funds raised for the charity are put to good use offering support to the families of fallen officers," says Ben Hudson, secretary of Suffolk Police Federation.

"It would be great if next year we had some Suffolk riders in the Police Unity Tour, getting behind the event and helping boost COPS' funds."

**Contact the Federation office for more details on how you can get involved.**

# Regulation reforms would diminish officers' rights

## Suffolk Police Federation has warned MPs that changes to regulations covering police conduct and dismissal would 'diminish officers' rights'.

Chair Darren Harris was reacting to reforms proposed by Labour MP Harriet Harman and London Mayor Sadiq Khan as part of their bill for police performance and discipline. The changes this would introduce if it became law include the ability to:

- Automatically dismiss a serving officer convicted of a serious criminal offence
- Automatically suspend an officer charged with a serious criminal offence
- Automatically dismiss a serving officer who fails vetting
- Give chief constables the power to reopen misconduct investigations
- Provide that Regulation 13 should be used to dismiss an officer while in their probation period (including for misconduct)
- Introduce a Duty of Candour, which would require an officer to proactively report any wrongdoing by themselves or others
- Provide chief constables the right of appeal to a police appeals tribunal following a misconduct hearing when the sanction is inadequate
- Reduce the performance process to a two-stage process, from the current three stage
- Strengthen the pension forfeiture rules so that a criminal offence does not have to be committed 'in connection' with their service in order for an officer to lose their pension
- Create a 'duty to handover' to obtain relevant information from an officer's personal phone during a misconduct investigation.

Darren said: "We know policing is under the microscope and we've work

to do to restore full confidence but these proposals are political point-scoring. Officers don't have the same employment rights as other public servants and these proposals diminish them still further.

"Police forces already have powers and processes to deal with the issues raised in these proposals, but these reforms fail to recognise them. And if these new rules are good enough for policing, shouldn't they be applied to all public service roles, including our political leaders?"

The Police Federation for England and Wales (PFEW) also expressed dismay at the intervention and said it was "actively engaging" in the ongoing Home Office review into the process of police officer dismissals, which is examining various aspects of the decision-making.

In February, it submitted detailed evidence to the review to ensure it "reflects the correct state of affairs" and suggests "robust reforms".

It warned that cultural reform and service-wide change must not be

brought in by giving sweeping, uncontrolled powers which would allow police chiefs to dismiss officers without following due legal process. PFEW accepted the need for change in police recruitment, vetting, training, standards and leadership but insisted any reform must be fair, considered and backed by proper evidence rather than conjecture.

The Federation has also been demanding a Royal Commission on policing to evaluate and define the role, purpose and responsibility of the police by engaging members of the public.

Ms Harman and Mr Khan have written to the Home Secretary, Suella Braverman, to offer her the legislative package.

Ms Harman said the current procedures "were not fit for purpose". She added: "The Bill stands ready to be made into law, to give police chiefs in England and Wales the powers they need and have explicitly asked for, so that they can start to build public trust in the police."



Harriet Harman.



Sadiq Khan.

# Breast and testicle props being used to spark cancer conversations

The equity lead of Suffolk Police Federation has been hosting a number of live events and demonstrations as part of a 'cancer road show' to help raise awareness of the disease.

Workplace rep Emma Arthurs has been tackling the taboo surrounding cancer by using breast and testicle props to spark conversations on the subject with her colleagues.

She is driven by her own experiences, having been diagnosed with breast cancer in 2017.

"When I was first diagnosed, I didn't know where to go for support or who to talk to. I don't want other people who are in a similar situation to experience that," said Emma, who has been living cancer-free for more than five years now, having received chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgery.

"To get the conversation going, and to talk to colleagues about the support and welfare available, we've been visiting different departments as part of a 'cancer road show', which has been really well-received.

**"We have these props, which look like a breast and a testicle, and we use them to demonstrate to people how they should check themselves properly for lumps."**

Emma hosts the events alongside fellow officer Hayley O'Donnell, who is also living cancer free having previously been diagnosed with the disease.

"We find that people only have to walk past the props to ask a question," continued Emma, who has most recently been engaging with the Suffolk Women's Network.

"And it's working. One person actually went to the doctor having spoken to us. I think the props act as a talking point, and encourage people to open up."

Emma said that she wants her colleagues to know that, as somebody who has experienced living with



Emma Arthurs and Hayley O'Donnell.

cancer, she will be there to hold the hand of others who have been diagnosed.

She explained: "Whether you or somebody you know has been diagnosed with cancer, we are here for you, before, during and after. You are not going through this alone.

"And I'm speaking to the loved ones of those who have been diagnosed with cancer too. The partners, the carers, the parents and family members - they need that support too."

Following her own experience with cancer, Emma decided to launch a peer support group, which helps those diagnosed or recovering from cancer, as well as those who are carers or bereaved, feel less isolated.

And in November last year, Emma and Hayley hosted their first-ever support day for Suffolk and Norfolk police officers.

Dozens attended the event, which was organised alongside local charities The Big C - which supports people living with cancer - and On The Ball - specifically helping those with testicular cancer - as well as Macmillan Cancer Research.

"We're hoping to host another peer support event this year, and will continue to work internally to raise awareness internally," Emma added.

**"If anyone wants us to visit them with our props, then please get in touch. Even if it's part of their team building day, the more we talk about it, hopefully, the more of a difference we will be able to make."**

If you would like Emma and Hayley to bring their props to an event or team-building session you have coming up then email [Emma.Arthurs@polfed.org](mailto:Emma.Arthurs@polfed.org)

# Tougher sentences have not reduced assaults on police

The Federation's national deputy chair says it 'cannot be right' that police officers assaulted on duty pay for part of their rehabilitation out of their own pocket.

Commenting on the current situation that sees enhanced rehabilitation for officers only available to self-funded individuals, Tiff Lynch believes changes need to be made and she will be advocating those changes in the details of the Police Covenant.

**"Officers who suffer any serious injury, after an assault at work, actually have to pay into a scheme themselves in order to get the enhanced treatment they may need in order to get them back to work as soon as possible,"** says Tiff.

"It doesn't come out of Government money, it doesn't come out of force budget, it comes out of their own pockets and that cannot be right.

"Something that I will be advocating for is that, as part of that Police Covenant which the Government has brought in, no police officer will have to pay for their physical or mental rehabilitation for injuries that have been caused in the line of duty."

Tiff believes assaults on officers are currently 'through the roof' despite the ability of the courts to hand out tougher sentencing and some 'fantastic work' being carried out by the Police Federation of England and Wales (PFEW) 'Protect the Protectors' campaign as well as the 'Operation Hampshire' national project.

**"I would love to say that the tougher sentencing has had a positive effect on reducing the numbers of assaults on officers, but it hasn't,"** she added.

"Assaults on police officers are going through the roof. We know that we will never be able to stop them, but it should not be seen as 'part of the job'.



Tiff Lynch.

"We need to be supporting our officers in their training. Giving them more contact time so they are better prepared, and we need to be giving more support to officers and their families when they have gone through a horrific incident like an assault.

"Forces are trying to help but they are also reliant on the PFEW and other staff associations to bolster that support.

"There can never be enough being done on the mental health support side of things for officers who are recovering from an assault. Once we say enough is being done, we stop."

Tiff says there needs to be specialist clinical supervision to support officers who have been through horrific attacks or who have seen horrific things in the line of duty.

It is a subject on which she speaks from experience.

**"We need more clinical supervision and it needs to be specialist clinical supervision from people who actually understand the roles that we do,"** says Tiff.

"I have that little devil on my shoulder from one incident that I attended as an experienced police officer and it never leaves me. Every so often, that little devil will pop up and come back to haunt me.

"If you imagine an officer going through several haunting incidents like that, they can build up and up and up until one day, they go pop. So, it's clear we need to do more to support those officers and that needs to be proper, ongoing support, not just a box-ticking exercise."

[Watch Tiff's interview.](#)

# New route into policing could create ‘two-tier system’

Suffolk Police Federation chair Darren Harris has spoken out against a so-called fourth route into policing amid fears it could create a two-tier entry system which might impact future career opportunities, pay and remuneration for members.

The National Police Chiefs’ Council (NPCC) announced it would support a Level 5 non-accredited learning programme which would be equivalent to a diploma of higher education (DipHE).

But Darren said the NPCC and the College of Policing should think again and ensure any new non-degree entry is still accredited to educational Level 6. He explained: “At the end of the day we want the best women and men in the Force whatever their educational background. But every new recruit must be trained to the same high standards and there are fears that the so-called fourth route might lead to some sort of two-tier system which is unacceptable and would never work.

**“Members of the public would expect all officers to undergo a training programme which equips them for the job and enables them to deliver a modern, effective police service for the people of Suffolk.”**

The new Level 5 learning programme is being made available for forces as soon as possible but not later than 1 April 2024.

Several forces are yet to engage with education partners about the impact of new standards and learning on existing Level 6 contractual obligations and await the College of Policing’s further implementation guidance and the design of associated curricula.

The Police Federation said it was still awaiting the equality impact assessment of the decision to introduce the non-degree entry route supporting Level 5 qualification but, in the meantime, urged the NPCC and the college to ensure any change in the policy ensures that the standards defining competence in the police constable role remain the same irrespective of the entry routes.

Police Federation National Board member and professional development lead Paul Matthews also suggested the fourth route would prove unworkable.

Paul said: “When the Home Secretary announced her plans for a new entry route last November, she did not envisage any reduction in the current learning standards. In fact, she stated that any new entry route would ‘deliver officers of the highest calibre, which would complement the existing framework’.

**“This proposed fourth route does not deliver what the Home Secretary stated. Instead, it opens the door for some officers to be trained to a lower standard than others.”**



# GIS update - reporting vehicle breakdowns

Subscribing members of the Suffolk Police Federation Group Insurance Scheme have access to RAC breakdown cover.

The RAC has produced a 'Rescue Me' document which enables members to log their breakdowns [online](#).

If you are not in a dangerous location, this is the fastest way to get help.

You can visit the [website](#) or call 0333 2000 999 and press 1 on your mobile, and they will text you the link.

However, if you have broken down on a motorway, feel vulnerable, or want to speak to someone, just stay on the line.

The online process is:

- Open this [document](#)
- Click on 'Report a Breakdown'
- Click report online
- Fill in your personal details which MUST include your membership number, which is X804.

Submit this and you will receive a confirmation text plus regular updates on your patrol's arrival.

Please note that RAC cover does not extend to family members.

If you need a reminder of any aspect of your Group Insurance cover, details of the RAC policy, or are interested in subscribing, please contact Kat in the Federation office on 01473 613888 ext 2001.

[Find out more](#)



## Check out our Member Services offers

Suffolk Police Federation works with a number of Member Service partners to give Federation subscribers access to a range of professional services, offers and discounts.

Most members are aware of the Group Insurance Scheme which, for an additional subscription, provides comprehensive insurance cover tailored to officers' needs.

If you do not subscribe to the scheme, you can find out more on our [website](#).

We also offer members the opportunity to book a relaxing low-cost break at the Suffolk Police Federation holiday home, Meadowlark.

Meadowlark, which sleeps up to eight people, is on [Kelling Heath Holiday Park](#) in Norfolk. [Find out more about the lodge](#).

For more details of our other partners and the services they can offer, please visit our Member Services pages.

We are also setting up free surgeries with a number of providers so that you can get one-to-one advice and support.

[Check out our advice surgeries page](#) and make an appointment.

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# 'Fallen officers never forgotten' as memorial charities merge

**Suffolk Police Federation chair Darren Harris says fallen police officers will never be forgotten as he welcomed the merger of two police memorial charities.**

The new Police Remembrance Trust has been formed from the amalgamation of the National Police Memorial Day and the Police Roll of Honour Trust.

Darren said: "It's important that we remember fallen officers, pay our respects and show our support to their families, friends and colleagues.

"The creation of the Police Remembrance Trust will bring together the skills and experience of two excellent and trusted charities and make an even stronger voice on behalf of the policing family.

"I look forward to working with the new trust to ensure that our fallen colleagues are never forgotten."

The Reverend Canon David Wilbraham MBE, newly-elected chair of the Police Remembrance Trust, said: "This is a huge moment in the history of these two charities.



We believe that together we can build on their vision, work and commitment.

"To all who have been involved with National Police Memorial Day and the Police Roll of Honour Trust, we are grateful for your support over the years and invite you to remain on this journey with us with continuing commitment and enthusiasm."

Meanwhile, preparations are underway for a special weekend to mark the 20th anniversary of the National Police Memorial Day, which this year will be held in Cardiff.

There will be a performance by the British Police Symphony Orchestra on Saturday 23 September in St David's Hall, Cardiff. The service itself will be held on Sunday 24 September, also in St David's Hall in Cardiff.

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