

# Effective Engagement with Diverse & Interfaith Communities Across Medway, Kent

A Case Study by PC Ranaweera (Kent Police)

# Medway: A Unique & Dynamic Policing Area

- **PC Ranaweera, Beat Officer for North Gillingham**
- **Community Liaison Officer in 2025**
- **Medway, Kent: A Unique & Dynamic Policing Area**
- One of Kent's most diverse districts
- Rapid population growth (Population over 290,000)
- Large faith presence: Muslim, Jewish, Christian, Hindu, Buddhist
- Strong community spirit, but also vulnerable to tensions



The poster features a blue background with a white silhouette of a city skyline and a group of people. A yellow speech bubble is integrated into the skyline. The text 'My Community Voice' is prominently displayed in white, with the tagline 'Protecting the neighbourhoods of Kent and Medway' below it. A yellow box contains text about the tool and a QR code. Four colorful call-to-action buttons are on the right: pink (megaphone), orange (bell), green (bubbles), and blue (hand cursor).

**My Community Voice**  
Protecting the neighbourhoods of Kent and Medway

MCV is a two-way engagement tool brought to you by Kent Police  
Use the QR code to find out more.  
Or visit the website  
[www.MyCommunityVoiceKent.co.uk](http://www.MyCommunityVoiceKent.co.uk)

Find out what's happening in your area

Receive alerts from your local officers

Tell us what matters most to you

Sign up Sign up today and make your voice count

# Medway Neighbourhood Policing



In Line with the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee,

- Dedicated Beat Officer in all 29 wards
- Dedicated Town Centre Team focusing on retail crime & associated offending across Medway's 5 town centres
- 3 GRIP Hotspots (Chatham, Gillingham, Rochester)
  - *15,000+ hours of dedicated patrolling in 2025*
  - *Focused on Serious Violence, Knife Crime, VAWG & ASB*

# My Role in 2025

- Lead for interfaith engagement
- Maintain, restore & look out for different community groups and engage and build positive relationships
- Support communities during community tensions
- Lead at Medway Station for digital engagement tools: **Neighbourhood Alert/MCV + Viva Engage**



# The Challenge

- Heightened community sensitivity during national & international tensions
- Increase in misinformation affecting public confidence
- Need for rapid, accurate updates and reassurance
- Need for culturally informed and respectful engagement
- Strengthening public trust & confidence to meet the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee



# A Hybrid Engagement Model

## 1. Face-to-face engagement

(Meetings, visits, surgeries, festivals & various outreach programmes)

## 2. Digital engagement

(Neighbourhood Alert / Social Media)



# Medway African Caribbean Association (MACA)



# Medway Culture Club



# Medway Deaf Club



# Together for our, Royal Military Families in Medway



# Supporting our ethnic minority communities in Medway



# Engaging & Supporting our, Faith Communities in Medway



# Medway Interfaith Peace walk



# Priority Areas & Supporting Local Charities



# Engaging with sports



# Community Alert

**My Community Voice**  
Protecting the neighbourhoods of Kent and Medway

**Medway Community Football Event**

Kent Police is hosting a Medway Community Football Cup event

We are inviting all members and residents of Medway to come and play in this tournament.

On **Saturday 8 November 2025** between **10am-5pm** on **Number 3 Sports Pitch, Sally Port Gardens, ME7 5BU**.

Teams should consist of **7-a-side** for 30 minutes.

If you have a team and would like to take part, please email [csu.medway@kent.police.uk](mailto:csu.medway@kent.police.uk) with your name and contact details.

**Kent Police** Protecting and serving the people of Kent

**Medway CSU Football Community Shield 2025**

On **8th November 2025**, the **Medway CSU Football Community Shield** returned for its **second year running** at the beautiful **Garrison Grounds, Sally Port Gardens, Gillingham**. This fantastic event brought together **various community groups** for an exciting **7-a-side football tournament**, brilliantly organised by **Tommy McGlone PC 46014199**.

We are delighted to announce that the **Kent Police Medway Team** lifted the **Community Shield**!

*The journey wasn't easy:*

- The team started with a 3-0 defeat, but regrouped under captain **Daniel Lee PC 46013859** and qualified for semi-finals.
- At semi-finals, they faced last year's champions & this year's tournament favourites **Royal Engineers 1-RSME**, and secured a **1-0 victory** thanks to an early strike from **Jonathon Rogers PC 46030609**.
- In the **final**, against the talented **Kent Afghan Community (KAC)** team, Kent Police were trailing **1-0** until **Samuel Webb-Nistal PC 46031214** scored a dramatic last-minute equaliser!

The Shield was decided by **penalty shootout**, where Kent Police triumphed **4-2**, with goalkeeper **Jake Adair PC 46031293** showing incredible skill.

**Huge congratulations to the Kent Police Medway Team** **Daniel Lee PC 46013859 Ant Hopper PS 46010842 Samuel Webb-Nistal PC 46031214 Nick Sandiford PS 46014336 Alan Mullen PS 46015564 Charlotte Feasey PC 46014095 Marcus Fuller PC 46030557 Jonathon Rogers PC 46030609 Jake Adair PC 46031293 Alexander Thorne PC 46031224 Cameron Hughes PC 46031299** and all the community teams who made this event a success!

Sports have a unique power to bring people together, build trust, and strengthen community bonds. Events like this remind us that teamwork, respect, and friendship go far beyond the pitch.

# Christmas Carols at Medway Station



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Protecting and serving the people of Kent

# 2025 Neighbourhood Results

Recipients 13333

62 Engagements

Registrations  
383

360 Surveys



Appreciation 88

# Thank You

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