



Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria

Victory House
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Dear Steve

I am delighted to offer my support to Wallsend Boys Club in their bid for funding to provide a new Community Hub for the residents and young people of North Tyneside. The club's ethos and plans to expand the services they provide to all members of the community fits perfectly with my own Police and Crime Plan priorities of improving lives and preventing crime.

The club is and has been a focal point of the community since its inception in 1904 with its main goal then as it is now – providing activities for young people and the whole community, with a clear focus on those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Football plays such a large part in the lives of North East residents and Wallsend Boys Club have been at the centre of this for many years. There have been several professional footballers who in their youth began their journey at this club. These young people ended their careers as footballing legends for both their clubs and country which shows the positive impact and excellent work that this club brings to the community and the positive role models they have produced.

Youth services have been so badly hit by cuts in funding, especially in the North East, which have hugely impacted young people, especially those families who are already struggling. In addition, rises in ASB due to a lack of youth provision has also increased which can lead to young people becoming victims of crime or becoming involved in crime themselves. Sports Clubs such as Wallsend Boys Club play an integral part in reducing ASB and providing support to the community at large, they need as much support as possible in ensuring they can work with and support young people and their families.

The funding to redevelop the hub at Kirkley Park offering bigger and better services and facilities to all members of the community both young and old, would undoubtedly have a huge positive impact on the residents of North Tyneside and I fully endorse their bid for funding.

Yours Sincerely

Kim McGuinness
PCC for Northumbria